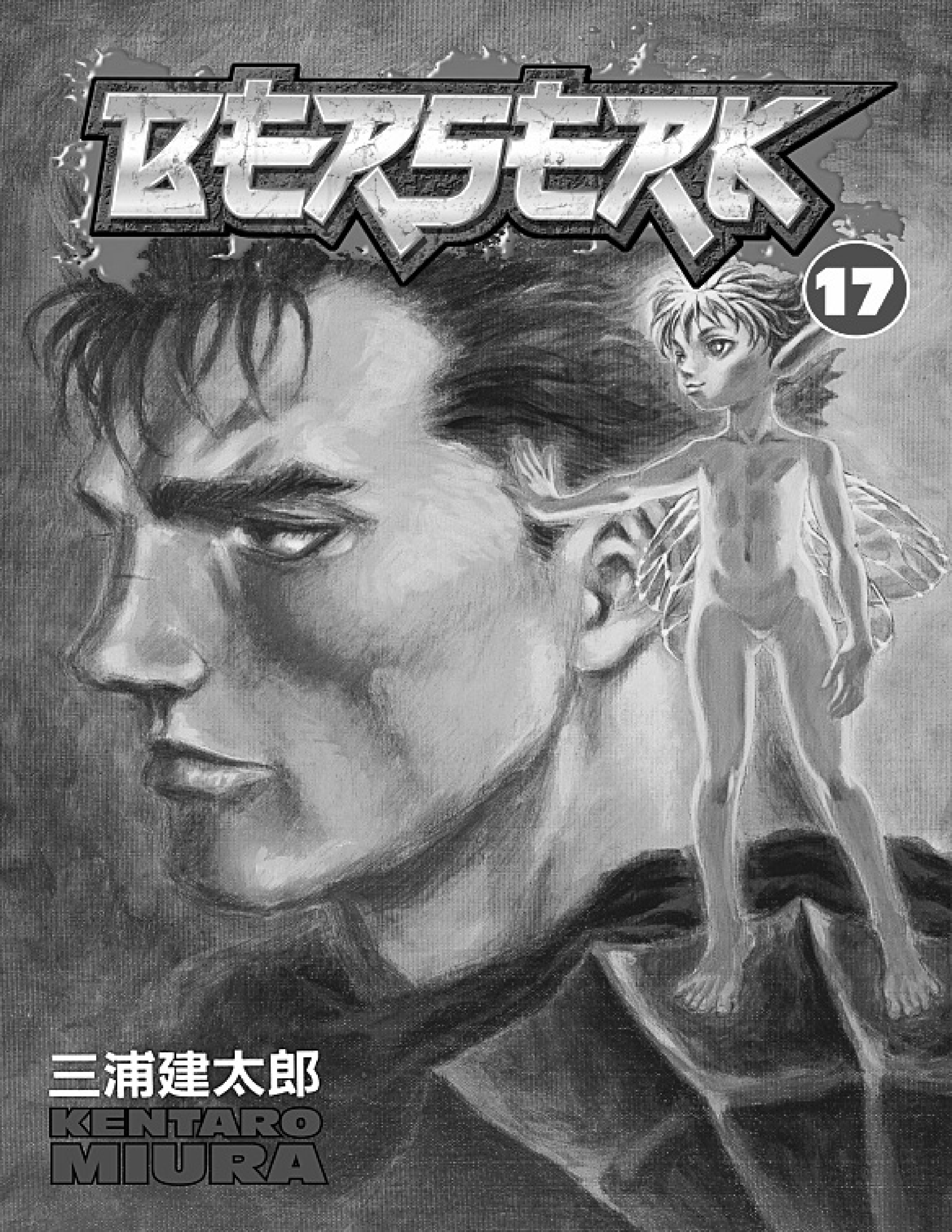

BERSERK
17
三浦建太郎
KENTARO
MIURA

BERSERK

ベルセルク

BERSERK 17

BY

KENTARO MIURA

三浦建太郎

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DUANE JOHNSON

LETTERING AND RETOUCH

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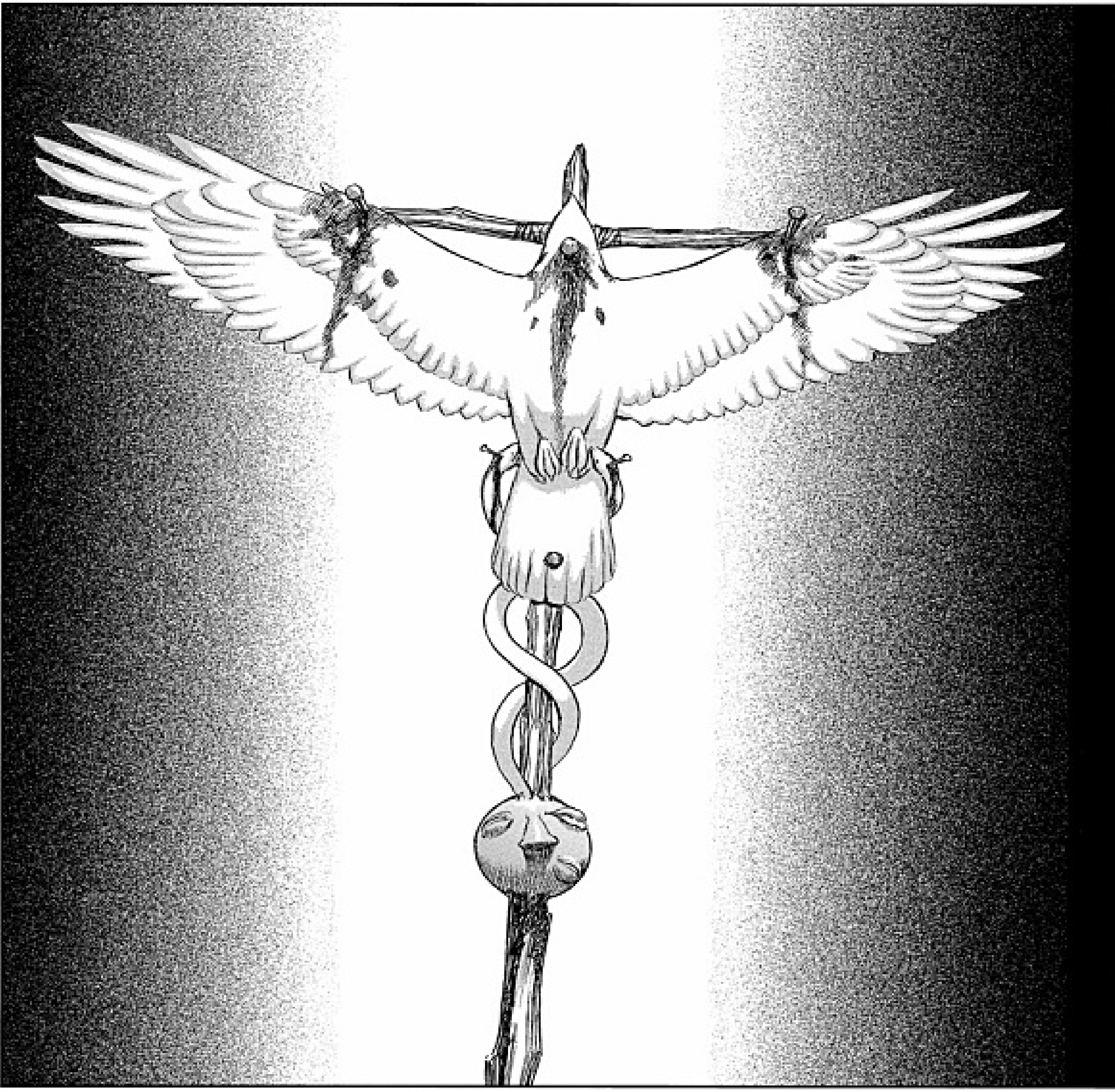
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BERSERK

ベルセルク⑰



三浦建太郎

ベルセルク 17

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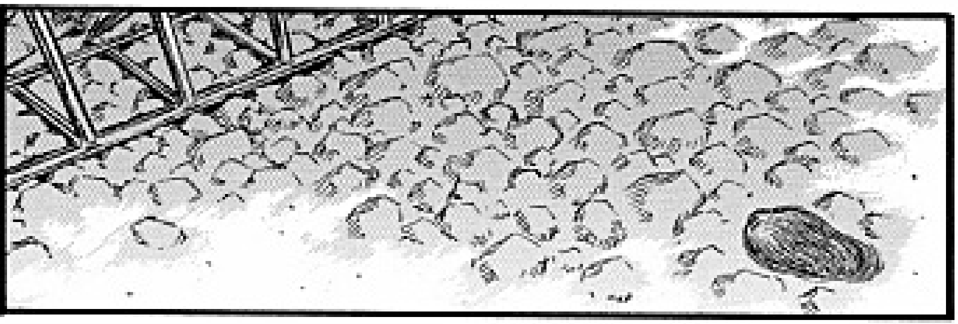


*FX: WOOOOOO



*FX: HYOOOOOOO








SACRI-FICE.
SACRI-FICE.
CONVICTION ARC
BINDING CHAIN CHAPTER
THE UNSEEN
断罪篇
縛鎖(ばくさ)の章　見ざる者



CAGED AND SWORDLESS... AND THE SHAPE I'M IN.
WHAT DO I DO?!
PROBLEM SOLVER, "ZUPA!"
HERE I AM, "ZUPA!"
*FX: WHMM WHMM
*FX: FWMM
*FX: SHMP
ZUDUUUCK!!
SWIFT HERO
OH YEAH.
HE'S STILL AROUND...

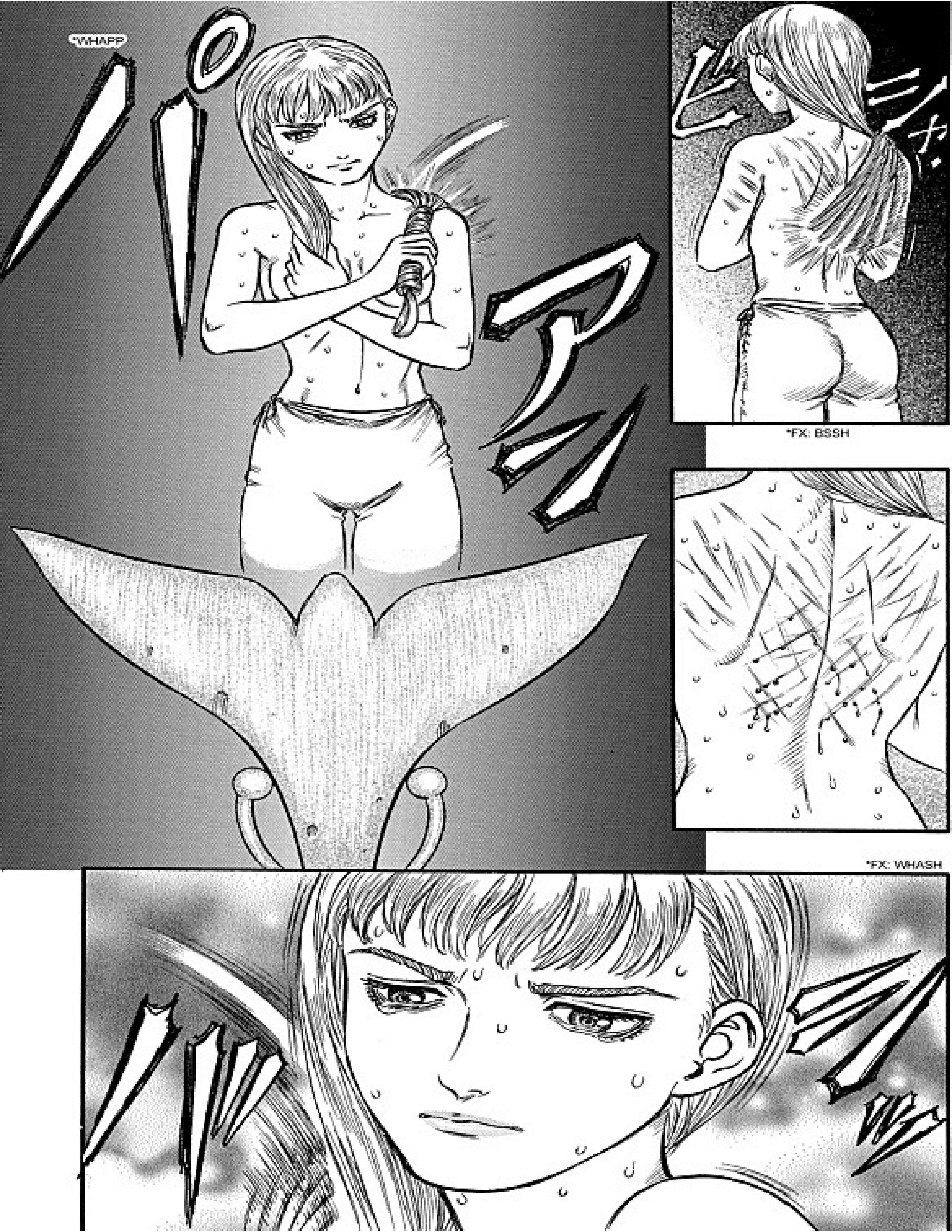


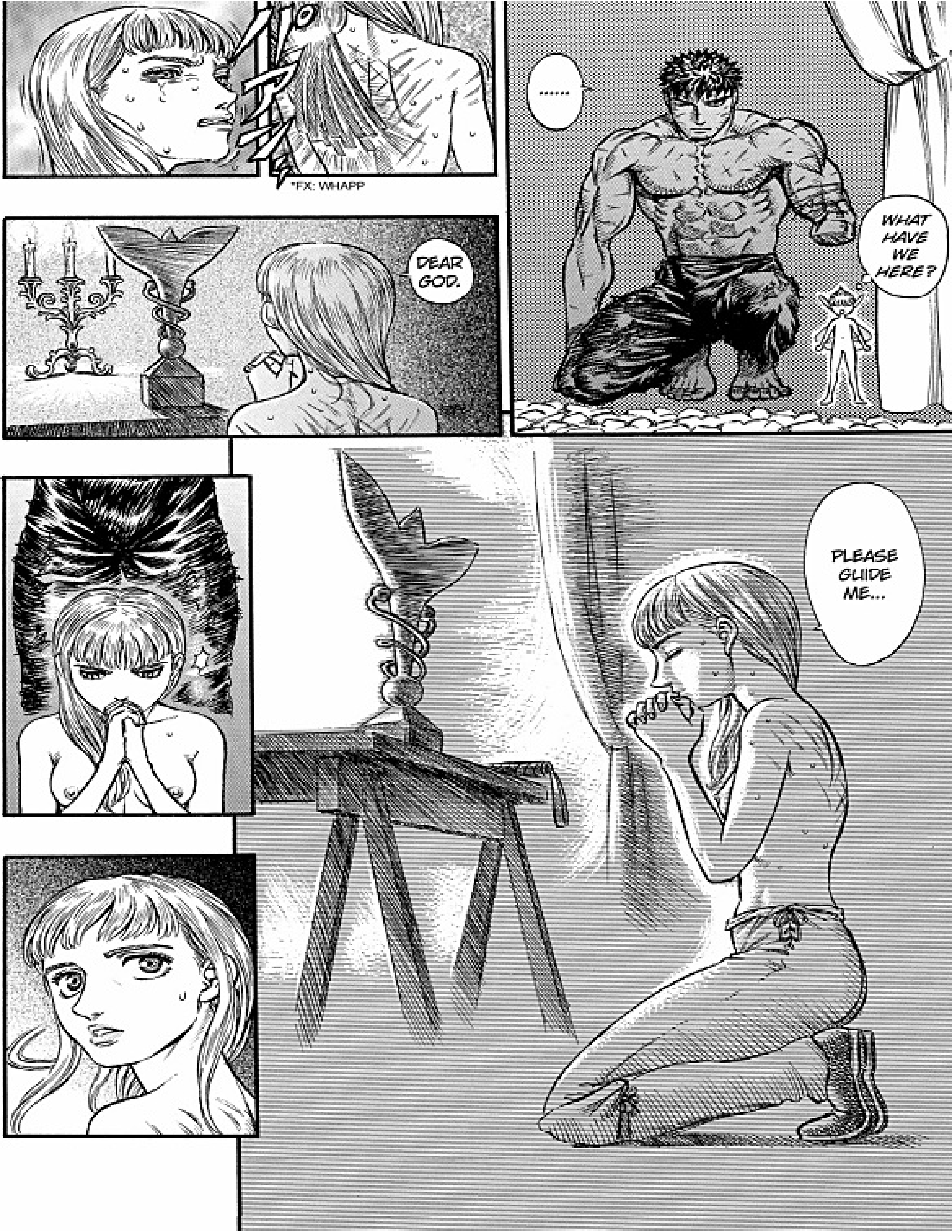
WHAT ABOUT "THANK YOU"?
HERE, ESCAPE WITH THESE KEYS.
WHAT WAS THAT?
I'VE COME TO RESCUE YOU, GUTS.
*FX: SWIP
GOOD, LET ME OUT.
...
HEY, WAIT A MINUTE!
THEN I SHALL RETURN THESE. STEALING IS WRONG, AFTER ALL.
LOOK, DON'T THINK THAT JUST 'CAUSE YOU'VE SETTLED IN A GUY'S BAG YOU CAN...
WHAT, FOR EVERY LITTLE THING...?
EVEN GOOD FRIENDS SHOW COURTESY.
...
"VERY MUCH, O GREAT PUCK."
...THANK YOU VERY MUCH. O GREAT PUCK...
DOM
DOM
DOM
DOM
I'LL WRING HIM LATER.
... THANK YOU.



THANK YOU VERY MUCH, O GREAT PUCK.
EHHH? I CAN'T HEARRR YOUUU!
*FX: WRING
IF I MUST, I MUST. SUCH A BOTHER.
JUST PINCH AND TWIST.
FIRST AID FIRST.
*FX: VMM VMM VMM VMM
I'LL PUT THE HURT ON THIS GARBAGE!!
DRAHHHHH!
SACRI-FICE.
SACRI-FICE.
SACRI-FIIIICE.
*RRAAAA
HYOOO!
*SCREE
*FX: ZHAAAA ZHAAAA ZHAAA


BUT ALL MY WEAPONS ARE IN THAT BITCH'S TENT.
ANYWAY, GOT TO GET MY GEAR BACK. THAT'S MY ONLY OUTFIT.
FORGET ABOUT IT. THE NIGHT-TIMERS ARE A LOT DIFFERENT FROM THE DAY-TIMERS.
WHY DIDN'CHA TELL ME?!
IF I DON'T HURRY, I'LL LOSE ANY CHANCE TO GET AWAY.
WHAT TO DO?
I KNEW IT... HE'S GETTIN' TOO USED TO THIS.
PERFECT. I'LL TAKE HER HOSTAGE IF I GOTTA.
NO GUARDS?
*FX: WHAP
WHASH
...
?
WHAP


*WHAPP
*FX: BSSH
*FX: WHASH


*FX: WHAPP
DEAR GOD.
......
WHAT HAVE WE HERE?
PLEASE GUIDE ME...


Y-
YOU ...!!
*GTUNK
*FX: WHUD
*THUD
OH, MANNN.
CHARMING, HUH...?



*KLACH
*SHNK
*SHAK
YOU WERE BADLY INJURED. IF YOU PUSH YOURSELF, YOU'LL REOPEN YOUR WOUNDS.
......
!
Y-YOU'RE ...!!
LADY FARNESE, TROUBLE!
THE BLACK SWORDSMAN IS--
NOT QUITE UP TO SNUFF...


*FX: GAGONG
*FX: GSHANNG
BRUTAL ...
*FX: WAAAAAA
NOW, THEN.
LOOKS LIKE I GOTTA TAKE HER AFTER ALL.
WAIT, LOOK HERE.
WOOPS.
DON'TCHA FORGET THIS. HOW RUDE TO MY BETCHI!
...
*FX: WUFF
F-FIIIRE!!
IT'S LADY FARNESE'S TENT...!!
THE BLACK SWORDS-MAN'S ESCAPED!
ALL FORCES, ARISE!!
THE FLAMES WILL SPREAD TO OTHER TENTS IN THIS WIND!!
*FX: FLAPP


ヴオオオ
*BROARRR
L-LADY FARNESE...!!
HOW DID YOU...?!
... ...
HOW 'BOUT CLEARIN' THE WAY, PAL?
WHO SAYS ONLY CLERGY CAN BURN SOMEONE ALIVE?
JUST WATCH! I'LL LIGHT HER ASS ON FIRE.
HE'D DO IT, TOO...
YOU THINK YOU CAN ESCAPE IN YOUR CONDITION?!
WE'LL SEE.
*THINK



TAKING A WOMAN HOSTAGE!
*HNRRRR
うぬ...ううう...
DESPI-CABLE ...
WE'VE NO CHOICE!!
EVERY ONE STAND BACK!!
MUCH OBLIGED.
*WHUFF
ボッ
GIT.
*SNPP
ブツッ
*GCHAK
ガチャ
*BDADUMP
ガ
*BDADUMP
ガ
*HRRN
*BDADUMP
ガ
*BDADUMP
ガ
*HRRN
ヒヒィィィン
*BDADUMP
ガ
ADUMP
ガ
GIT!


HAHH!
HOW COULD YOU?!
DON'T SWEAT IT!
*WAHH WAHH WAHH
*FX: BDADUMP BDADUMP
QUICKLY !!
GATHER UP THE HORSES!!
*FX: BDADUMP
WHO GOES ?!
A COLLOSAL BLUNDER FOR ME!!
WE CANNOT LET HIM ESCAPE THIS WAY!!


*FX: BDADUMP BDADUMP BDADUMP
THIS TIME YOU'VE GONE *TOO* FAR! SETTIN' HORSES ON FIRE! WHO DO YOU HAVE TO THANK FOR HAVIN' RUN THIS FAR?!
A HORSE.
I SWEAR.
AYOOMP!
YOU AREN'T HUMAN.
*FX: SMEK SMEK
THEN *APOLOGIZE* TO THE HORSE!
SORRY, HORSE.
... ...
*FX: JERK
SO LONG AS YOU ...
WHOA!


DON'T STRUGGLE! IF YOU FALL ON THESE ROCKS WITH YOUR HANDS AND FEET BOUND, YOU'RE DEAD.
HNNN!
YO.
SHOE'S ON THE OTHER FOOT NOW.
KH ...!
OH, I'M PUCK.
DON'T WORRY, WE'RE NOT GONNA EAT'CHA OR NOTHIN'.
...
IF YOU THINK YOU'LL GET AWAY WITH... WITH TREATING ME, THE LEADER OF THE HOLY IRON CHAIN KNIGHTS, LIKE THIS...!!
LET ME OFF, YOU BASTARD !!
SORRY, BUT YOU'RE WITH ME FOR A BIT.
THERE'RE THINGS I NEED TO ASK YOU.
SHUT UP.
IF YOU KEEP YAPPIN,' I'LL HAVE TO KNOCK YOU OUT AGAIN.
AH.
HEY.
BOK
... ... !!



...DAMMIT.
LET ME-- OOOOFF!!
I'D RATHER FALL AND DIE THAN BE SUBJECT TO YOUR WILL!!
*FX: WHSHH
*FX: WHMP
...IT'S A DISGRACE!!
THAT THIS APOSTATE COULD--!!
IGH...!
NOW YOU BETTER CALM DOWN SOME.
*TCH
*YANK
NOOO
C'MON, GUTS ...!!



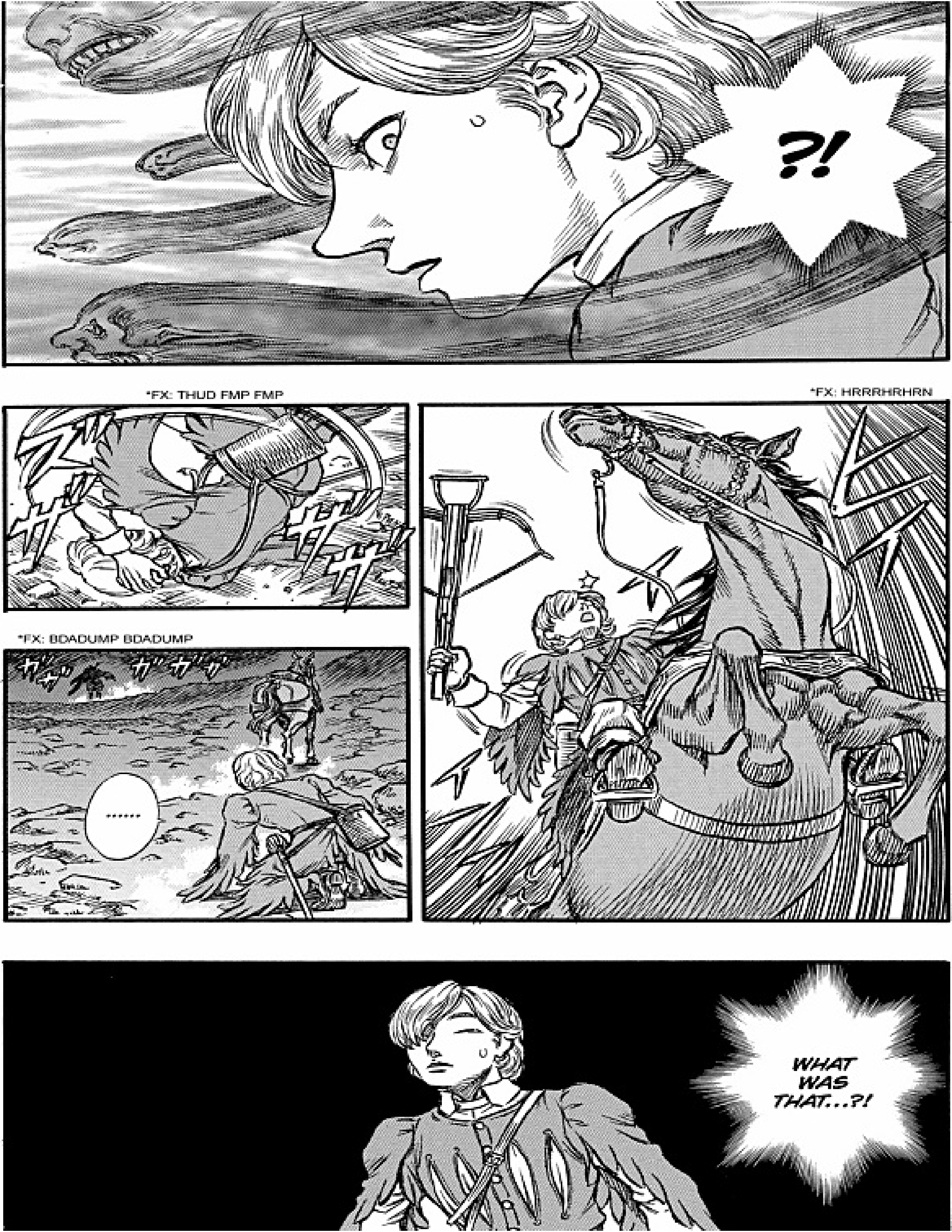
BURN HIM AT THE STAKE.
I'LL GET HIM.
I'M SO SORRY, MISS. MY TEACHINGS HARDLY REACH HIM...
...
*FX: MUMBLE MUMBLE
I'M OH. PUCK.
NICE FLYING.
AIN'T THERE ANY LOVE IN THIS MAN?!
GWAHHH!
NOPE.
*FX: FLAIL FLAIL FLAIL
...
*WAVE WAVE
*TGG
...
WHAT'RE YOU DOIN'?
......
STOP MAKING A FOOL OF ME!!


WHEN IT COMES TO ME...
...TO ELVES...
...SHE DOESN'T PERCEIVE US.
SHE DOESN'T SEE.
HUHN?
SHE'S NOT TRYING TO.
*FX: BDADUMP BDADUMP
*FX: CHAK
*FX: KRKK



CONVICTION ARC
BINDING CHAIN CHAPTER
THE UNSEEN: END


CONVICTION ARC
BINDING CHAIN CHAPTER
NIGHT OF MIRACLES
断罪篇
縛鎖(ばくさ)の章　奇跡の夜


?!
*FX: HRRRHRHRN
*FX: THUD FMP FMP
*FX: BDADUMP BDADUMP
......
WHAT WAS THAT...?!

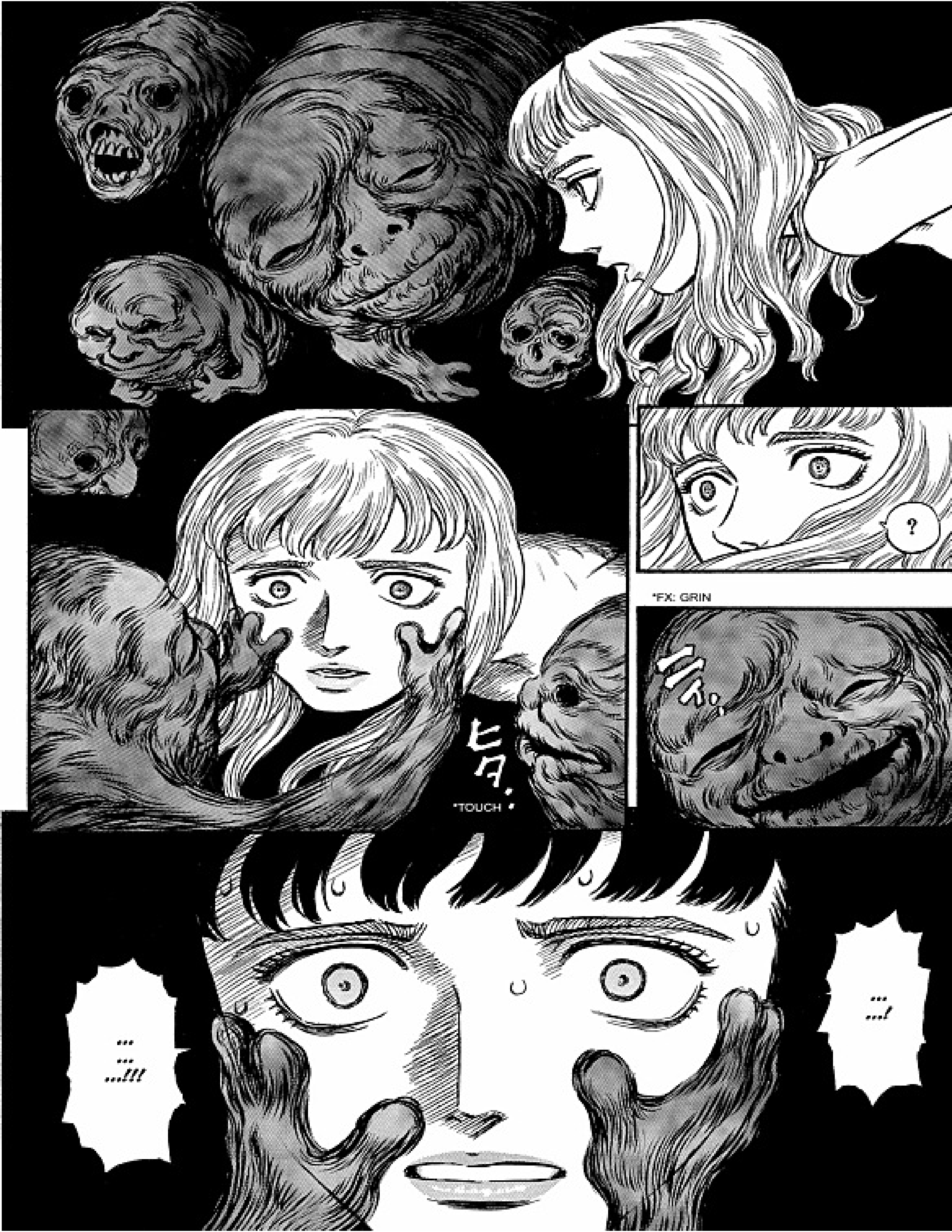

DOESN'T PERCEIVE THEM?
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
HMM ...
HOWWW SHOULD I EXPLAIN IT.
*BDADUMP BDADUMP
FOR INSTANCE... WHEN HUMANS... NOTICE SOMETHIN', IT STAYS IN THEIR MEMORY.
BUT IF IT'S SOMETHIN' THEY DON'T CARE ABOUT, THEY DON'T REMEMBER, DO THEY?
SOMETIMES PEOPLE DON'T NOTICE AN ELF RIGHT IN FRONT OF THEM SINCE IT DOESN'T CAPTURE THEIR ATTEN-TION.
THEY CAN'T EVEN RECALL IT HAPPENIN'.


FOR SOME REASON, LOTSA PRIESTS ARE LIKE THAT. NOT SO MUCH IN RURAL CHAPELS, BUT WHEN I GO IN BIG CATHEDRALS, I'M NOT SEEN TOO MUCH.
AND LIKE IN BIG CITIES.
WHY DOES HE KEEP MUMBLING TO HIMSELF...?
DUNNO... IT DOESN'T MAKE MUCH SENSE TO ME, EITHER...
WHY, THOUGH?
THE OLD FORTUNE TELLER LADY FROM THE ENTERTAINER TROUPE SAID, UHHH, WHAT WAS IT...?
OH YEAH, THOSE WHO CLING TO THE RIGID WORLD DON'T PERCEIVE ELVES.
I THINK...
*FX: CHFF CHFF CHFF
...EVEN SO, BEIN' IGNORED PEEVES ME!
TIME FOR SOME FUN!
*FX: HEE HEE HEE
QUIT THAT...
... ...!!
RIGID WORLD...
HUH...


*FX: (effect of noticing something)
*FX: ZZT ZZT
GCHAK
HERE THEY COME.
GUTS ...!!
TOUCHING MY BACK —
I KNOW.
*FX: WHOMMMM
MY MEN...?!


UH?!


*DOSH
*GSSH
*PANG
WILL I LAST 'TIL MORNING ...?!
...WHAT ?!
IT'S TOO DARK TO SEE.
WHAT'S GOING ON...?!


?
*FX: GRIN
ヒタ
*TOUCH
...
...!
...
...
...!!!


...AH !!
YOU WON'T SEE THIS, PRAYIN' TO IDOLS.
KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN, WATCH.
*BSSSHH
GOD'S PUTTIN' ON A SHOW FOR US.
A MIRACLE ON EARTH.


*VANN
*WHSHK
...AH, CRAP!!
IF I KEEP SWINGIN' THIS, THE HORSE WON'T BE ABLE TO TAKE IT!!
*FX: HAHN HAH
*FX: KRIK KRIK
*FX: TOUCH TOUCH
AGHH!
HEY! STRUGGLE AND YOU'LL FALL OFF!
UWAHH!
*BDUMP


HAA!!
*FX: SHNK SHNK SHNK SHNK
...WH-WHY?!
I TOLD YOU.
I'VE GOT QUESTIONS.
*FX: THUD
I CAN'T HAVE YOU BUSTIN' YOUR HEAD ON A ROCK.
... ...!!
QUESTIONS ...?



YOU'RE GOING TO TELL ME WHY YOU PEOPLE...
...FOLLOW ME AROUND.
*GRRRRR
......
IN YOUR DREAMS !!
I'VE NOTHING TO SAY TO AN APOSTATE LIKE YOU!!
*RUN
*RARF
*RARF
*RARF


WILD DOGS.
... ...!!
I DON'T HAVE TIME TO MESS WITH THEM RIGHT NOW!
WANT ME TO TALK TO 'EM?
?!
*FX: YIPE
*FX: WHINE
*FX: KRIK KRIK
*FX: WHINE
*FX: WHINE
*FX: RARF RARF
*FX: ZZMM
*FX: HAHHHH
*KRIK
...AH.
AHH...
*KRIK


SACRI-FIICE.
SAC...
I TAKE THAT BACK.


YEE...
EE...


NO WAY ...
SOMETHING LIKE THIS ...
CAN'T HAPPEN ?
*FX: GRRRRRR
THAT'S WHY...
...IT'S CALLED A *MIRACLE.*
*FX: SNARL
*FX: GROWR


*CHOPP
*FX: SNAP SNAP
*FX: WHAP
FLESH.
GIVE FLESSSH.
AIEEE!


*WHOCK
...
...
...!
*BLCH
VLEZ-HHH
WHY SHY AWAY AT THE GOOD PART?
IF YOU'RE SO *SPIRITUAL*, YOU COULD AT LEAST GIMME ONE OF THOSE LINES...
*OOOO
*GRAHH
*GRAHH
*GRRRRR
...LIKE *"DEAR GOD."*





CONVICTION ARC
BINDING CHAIN CHAPTER
NIGHT OF MIRACLES: END

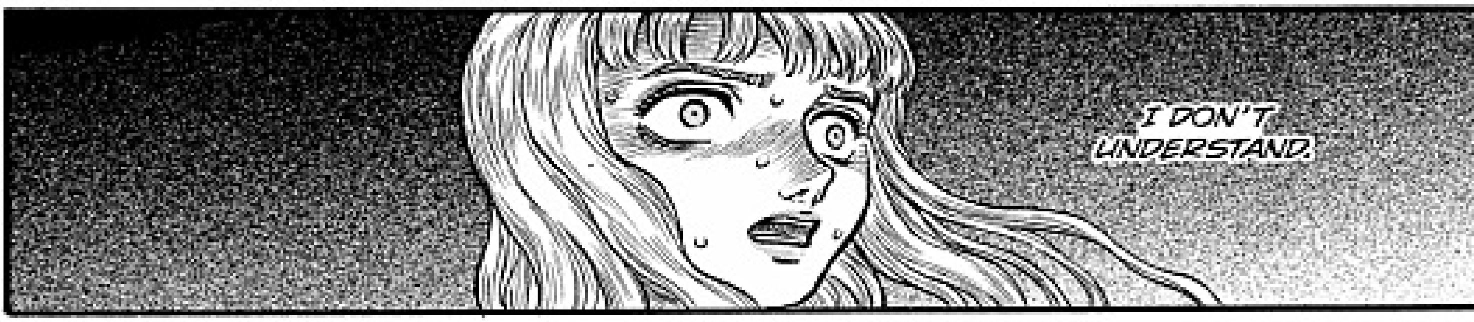
断罪篇

縛鎖(ばくさ)の章

去来



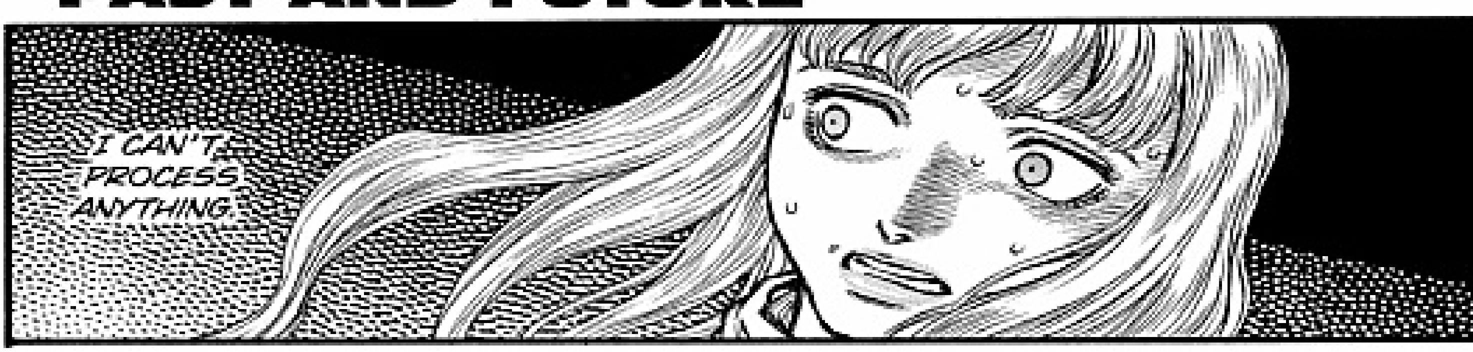
CONVICTION ARC



BINDING CHAIN CHAPTER



PAST AND FUTURE



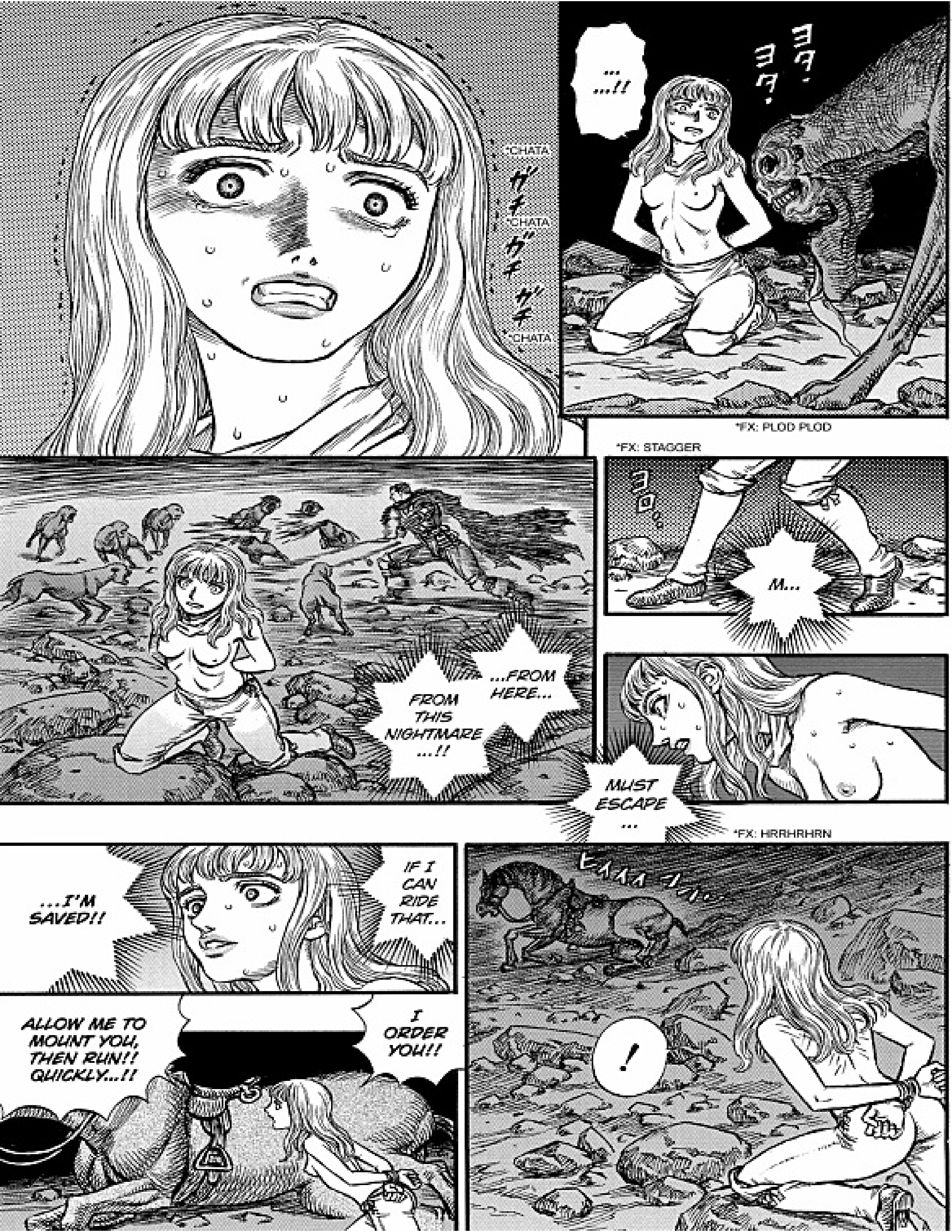



...AND NOT EVEN WORDS OF PRAYER COME TO MIND.


ONLY THAT I'M FILLED WITH FEAR...



*FX: ZHUNK
*FX: RISE
*FX: TWITCH TWITCH
*FX: WHAM


...
...!!
ヨタ・ヨタ・
*FX: PLOD PLOD
*CHATA
ガチ
*CHATA
ガチ
ガチ
*CHATA
ヨロ..
*FX: STAGGER
M...
MUST ESCAPE ...
*FX: HRRHRHRN
...FROM HERE...
FROM THIS NIGHTMARE ...!!
ヒィィィ ィィ...
!
IF I CAN RIDE THAT...
...I'M SAVED!!
I ORDER YOU!!
ALLOW ME TO MOUNT YOU, THEN RUN!! QUICKLY...!!


...
...!
VSSH
VSSH
NO.



ヒ
ヒィイイ
*HRHRRRN
ヴル…
AH
*VRHRHR
AH...
ドッ
ガッ
*WHOCK
IGH!
*SHLOP
I MOUNT...
*HAH
...THE WOMAN.
*HAH
NOOOOO!






*FX: KRSH KRSH


*FX: WHONNNG


...
...
...
EE
EEEG
*THUDDD
*FX: SHAKE SHAKE
*FX: GULP
HUHF
HUHF
HEY.
...
EH?


IF YOU DON'T WANNA DIE, QUIT WANDERIN' AROUND.
A...
ALRIGHT ...
HE'S OPENED HIS WOUNDS AGAIN.
FIGHTIN' SO RECKLESSLY ...
BUT THERE'S AN UNSTOPPABLE, TERRIBLE RAGE SWIRLIN' INSIDE GUTS, MORE SO THAN USUAL... WHY...?

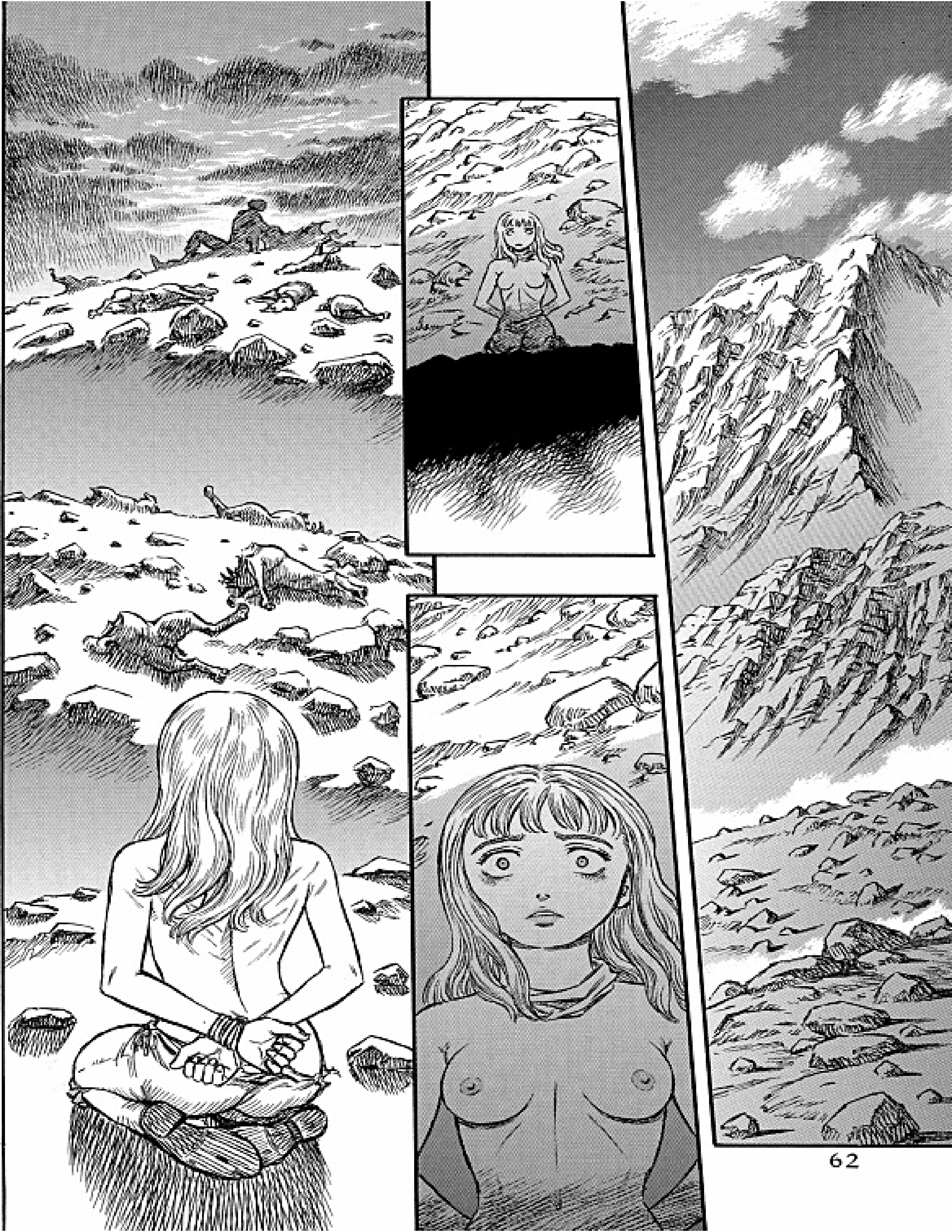

WHAT WAS THAT ...?!
... ...!!

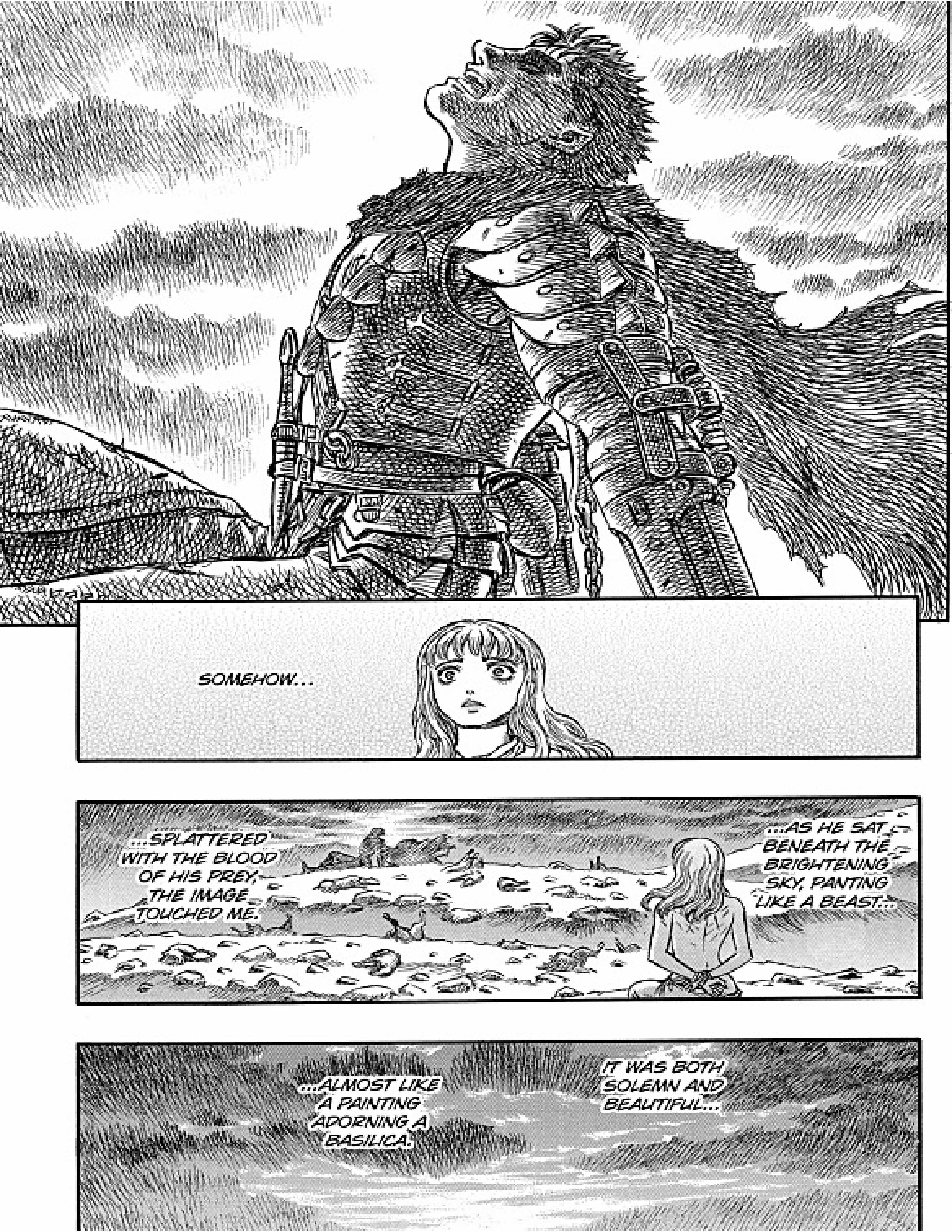

*GRRRRRR
グルルル…
ウオン
*ROWF
オン
*WOOF
I WON'T BOTHER TO SHIELD MY WOUNDS.
I DON'T CARE IF MY ARM'S TORN OFF.
THANKS TO YOU ALL'S STUPID TRICKS...
...THIS VIVID SENTIMENT ...
...THIS FEELING THAT STARTED IT ALL.
...REMEM-BERED AFTER SO LONG...

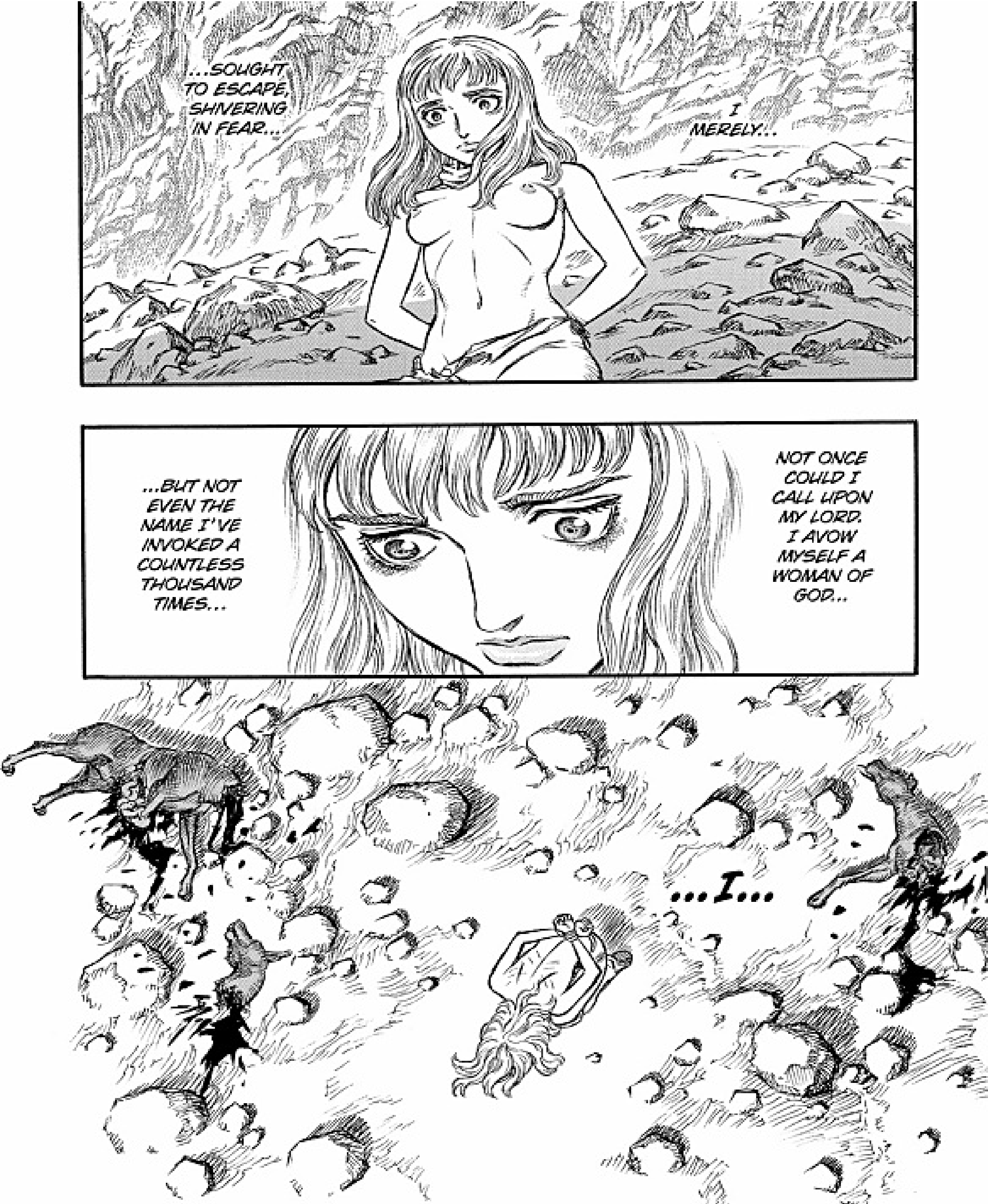


*FX: GRAON GRAHH GRAHH

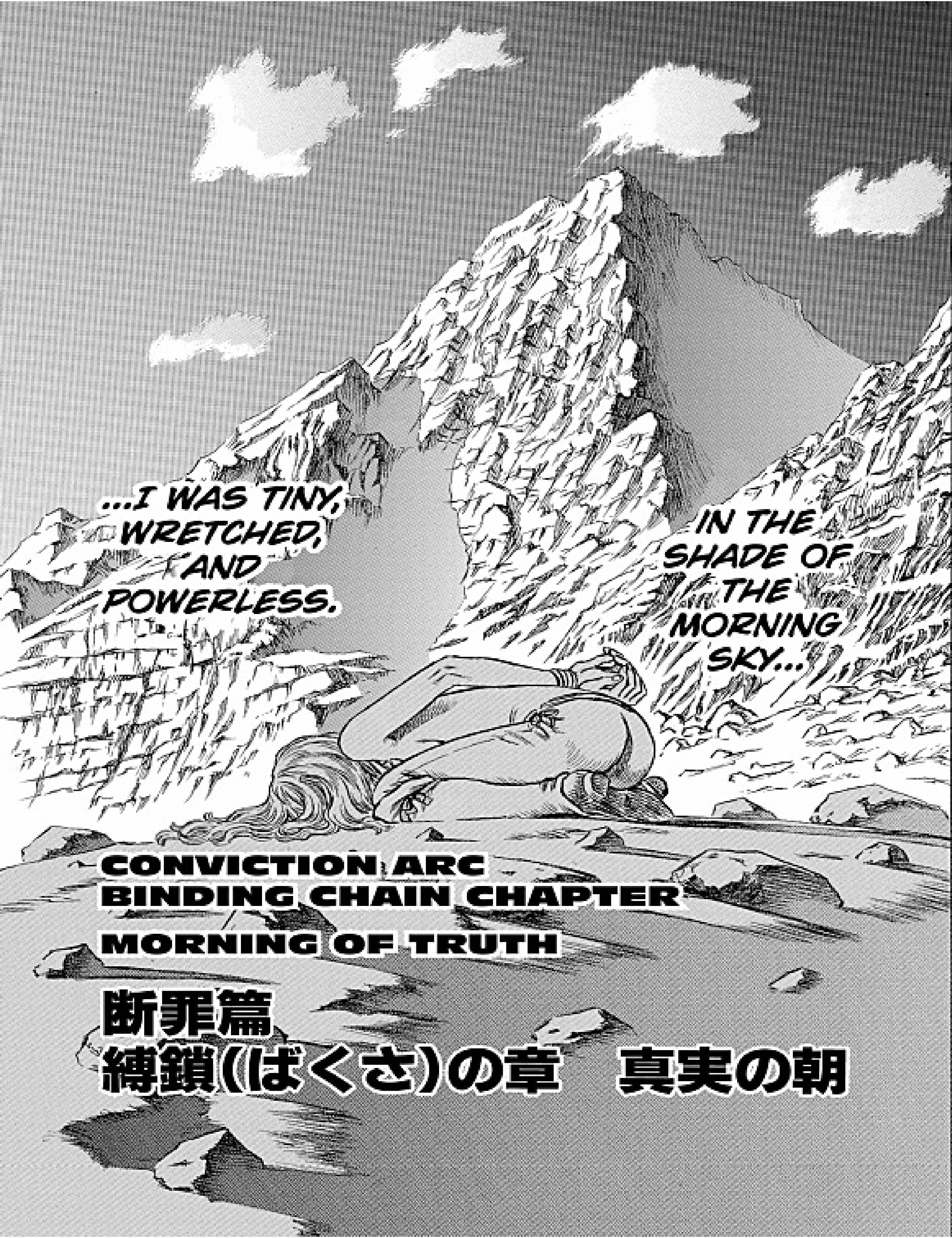

YOU'LL ALL KEEP DYING UNTIL THE DAY BREAKS.

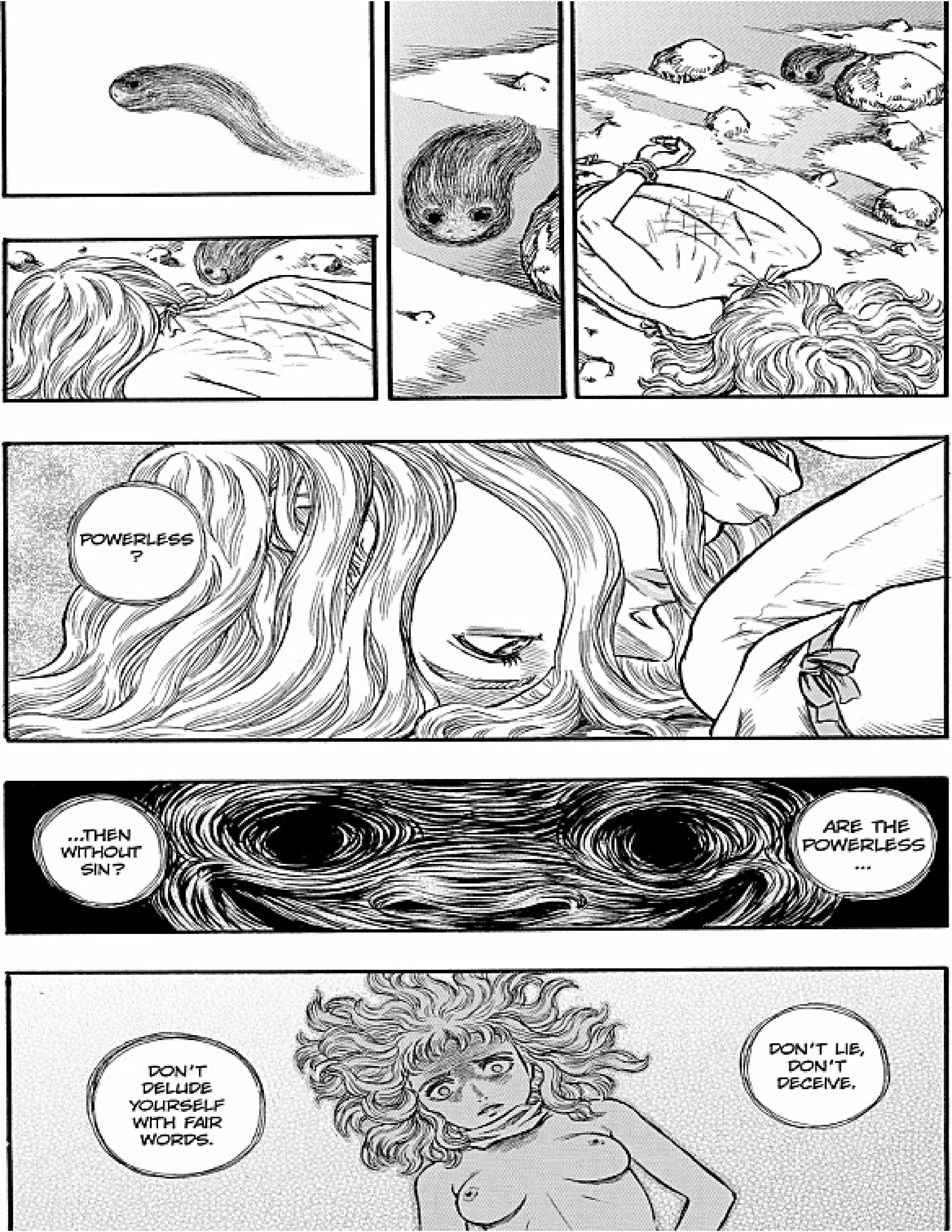



SOMEHOW...
...SPLATTERED WITH THE BLOOD OF HIS PREY, THE IMAGE TOUCHED ME.
...AS HE SAT BENEATH THE BRIGHTENING SKY, PANTING LIKE A BEAST...
IT WAS BOTH SOLEMN AND BEAUTIFUL...
...ALMOST LIKE A PAINTING ADORNING A BASILICA.

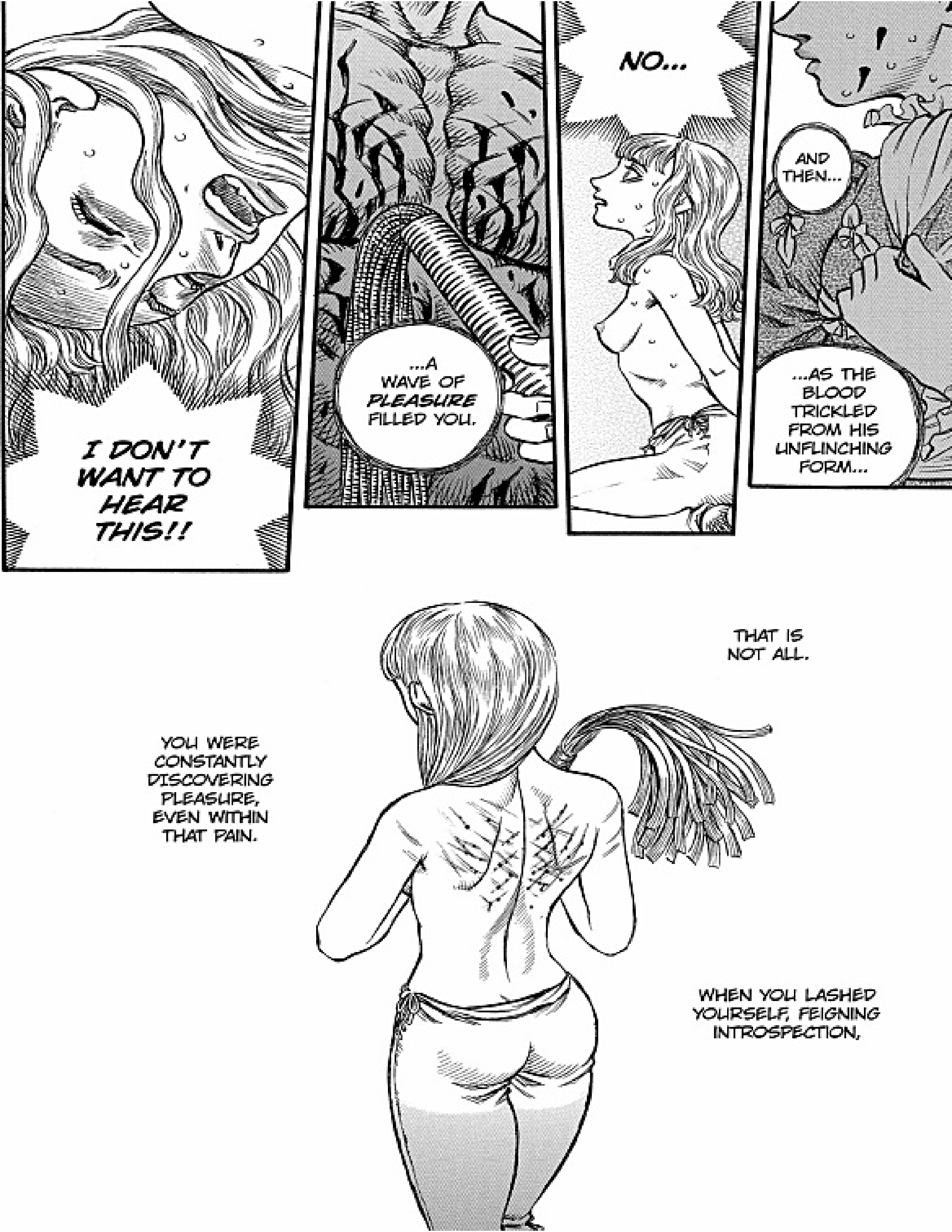


CONVICTION ARC
BINDING CHAIN CHAPTER
PAST AND FUTURE: END


IN THE SHADE OF THE MORNING SKY...
...I WAS TINY, WRETCHED, AND POWERLESS.
CONVICTION ARC
BINDING CHAIN CHAPTER
MORNING OF TRUTH
断罪篇
縛鎖(ばくさ)の章　真実の朝


POWERLESS ?
ARE THE POWERLESS ...
...THEN WITHOUT SIN?
DON'T LIE, DON'T DECEIVE.
DON'T DELUDE YOURSELF WITH FAIR WORDS.


DARK, DARK...
... DESIRE.
IT EXISTS WITHIN YOU,
YET YOU CANNOT REVEAL IT.
NO...
YOU FELT IT THEN.
WHILE YOU THRASHED THAT MAN'S STEEL PHYSIQUE.
THEN.
EVEN PLUGGING YOUR EARS IS FUTILE.
BECAUSE THIS IS YOUR INNER VOICE.
YOU KNOW YOU FELT IT.
IT SWELLS WITHIN YOU.
THIS MORBID LUST.


I DON'T WANT TO HEAR THIS!!
...A WAVE OF PLEASURE FILLED YOU.
NO...
AND THEN...
...AS THE BLOOD TRICKLED FROM HIS UNFLINCHING FORM...
THAT IS NOT ALL.
YOU WERE CONSTANTLY DISCOVERING PLEASURE, EVEN WITHIN THAT PAIN.
WHEN YOU LASHED YOURSELF, FEIGNING INTROSPECTION,



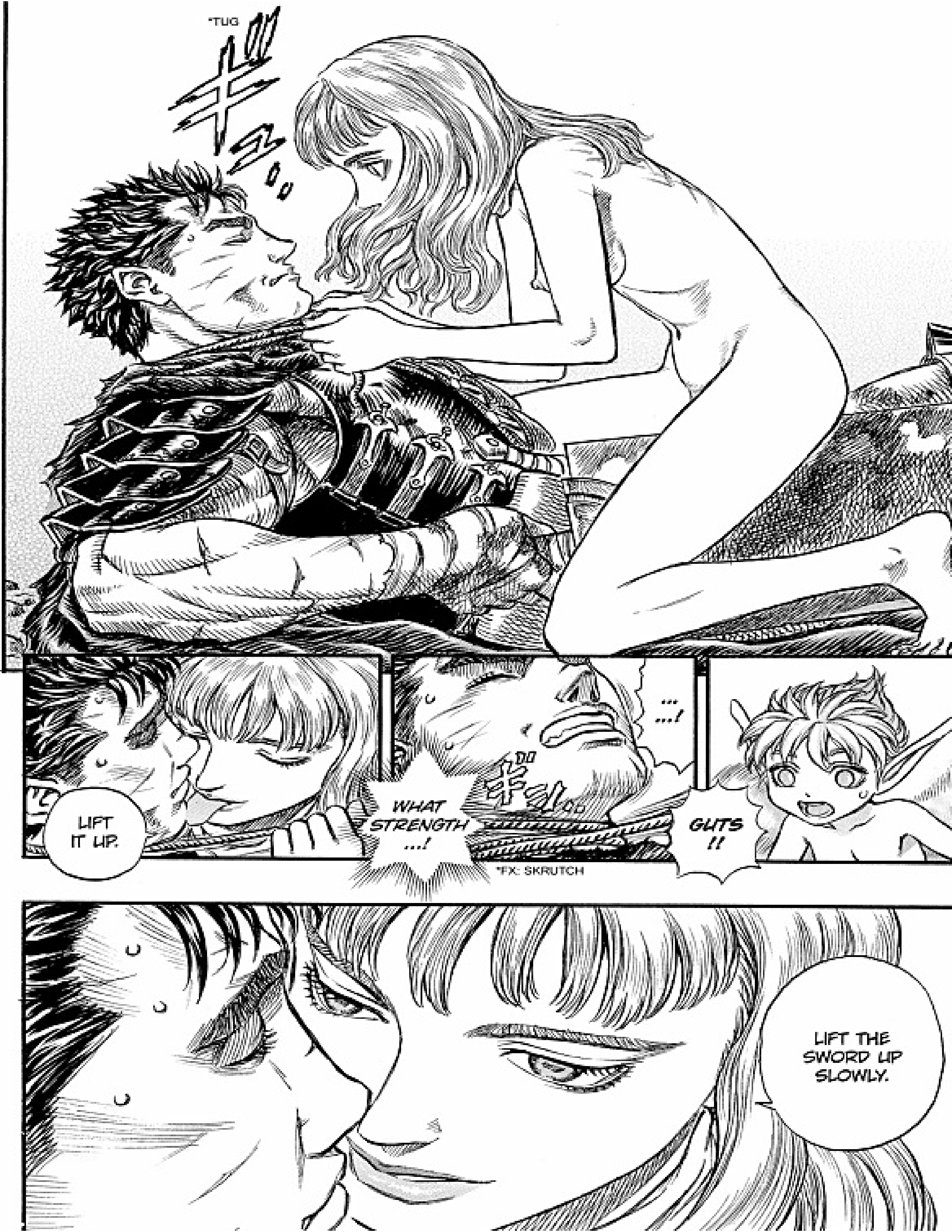
...AND DEVOTE YOUR BODY TO SHAMEFUL PLEASURE. THAT IS YOU.
YOU SIMPLY LIE TO YOUR OWN SOUL FROM BEHIND YOUR RELIGION...
THERE IS NOTHING AT ALL INSIDE YOU. WHAT THINGS YOU CAN BOAST OF TO YOURSELF AND OTHERS ARE TRIFLING. YOU'RE AN INSIGNIFICANT WOMAN, BECAUSE YOU FEAR KNOWING YOU'RE NOTHING. YOU'RE JUST DRUNK ON GOD'S AUTHORITY.
THAT'S NOT TRUE, I...!!
JUST SUCH A DARK, DARK DESIRE.
ALL THAT EXISTS WITHIN YOU IS DESIRE. YOU WANT TO DEFILE AND BE DEFILED. YOURSELF AND OTHERS, BODY AND SOUL.

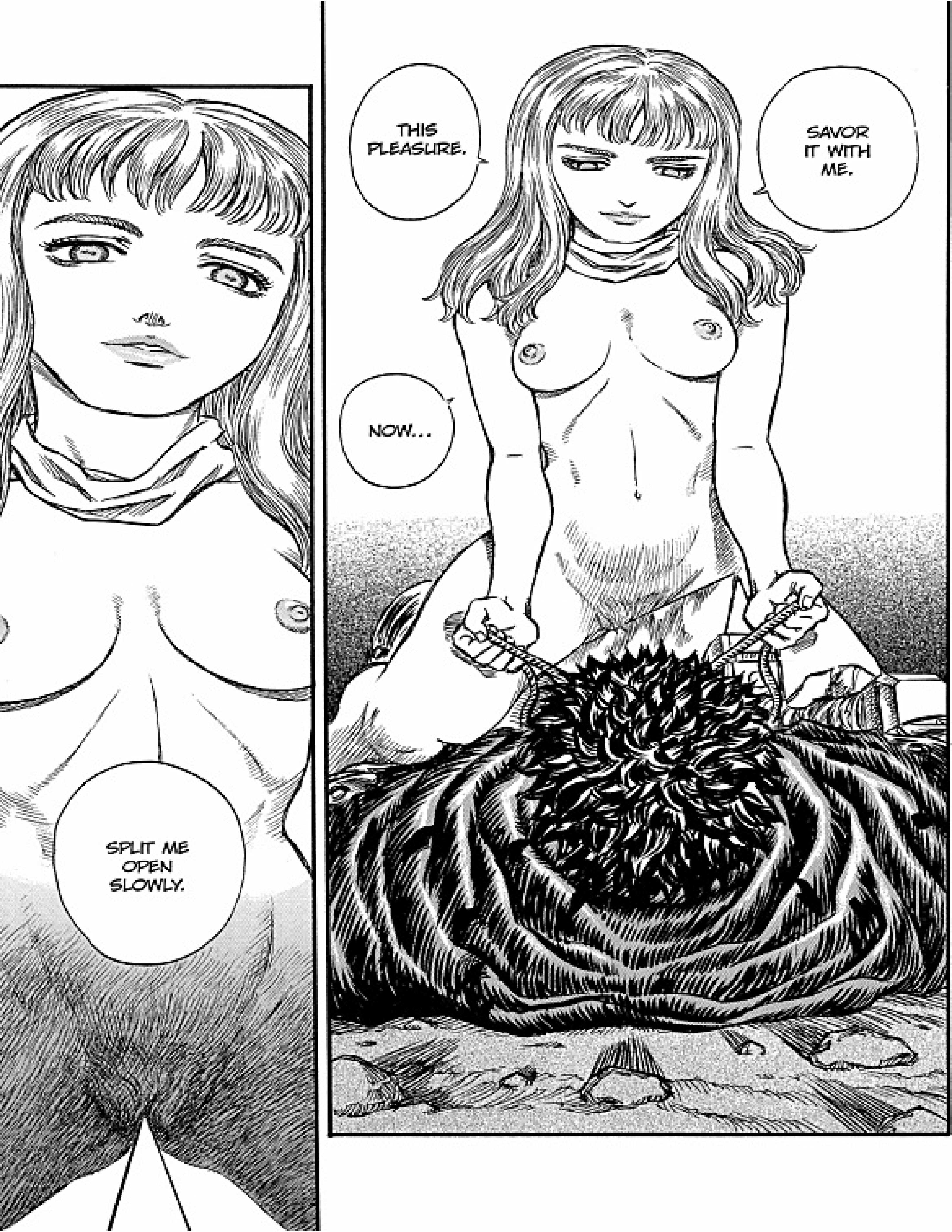

INSIDE HERE...
...THERE IS NO GOD.
ONLY THIS ACHING IS TRUTH.
GIVE YOURSELF TO IT. FOR YOU, IT'S THE ONLY SURE THING.
YOU'RE TOO FAR FROM GOD.

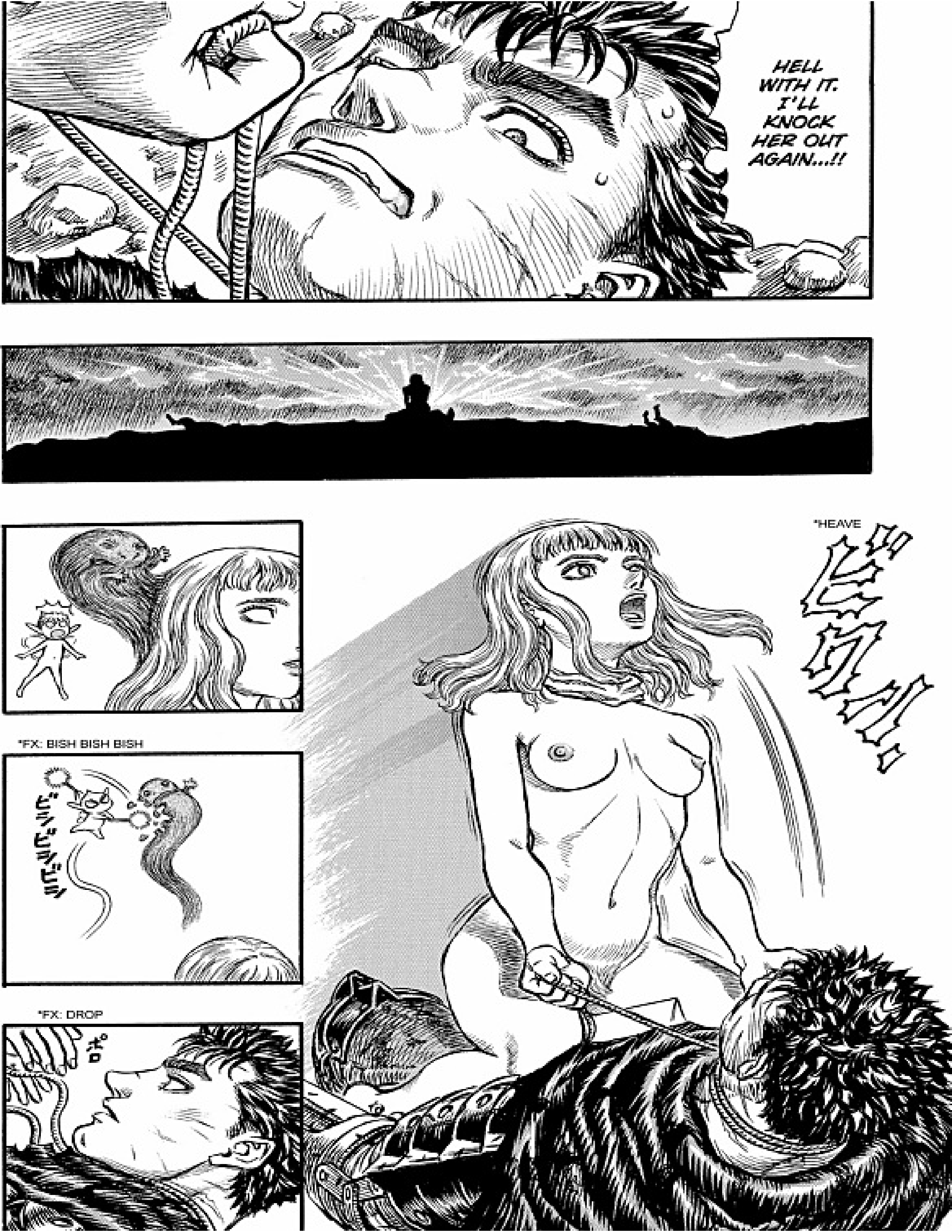

HEY...
...
...


!
WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?
SHOVE
!
GUTS, SHE'S--
YEAH, BEEN POSSESSED.


*FX: STARE
ぢ〜〜〜
......
UMMM ...
!


*TUG
...
...!
GUTS !!
*FX: SKRUTCH
WHAT STRENGTH ...!
LIFT IT UP.
LIFT THE SWORD UP SLOWLY.


SAVOR IT WITH ME.
THIS PLEASURE.
NOW...
SPLIT ME OPEN SLOWLY.


HELL WITH IT. I'LL KNOCK HER OUT AGAIN...!!
*HEAVE
*FX: BISH BISH BISH
*FX: DROP


HNN...
*SLUMP
IF YOU'RE BACK TO NORMAL, THEN GET THE HELL OFF ME.
LOOK.
HN!
HNN!
HN!


......
*FX: BDADUMP BDADUMP


CAN YOU STAND?
*FX: STP STP
*FX: SCOOT
*FX: FLUTT
KILL HIM.
FOR THE SAKE OF MY HONOR.
HERE, IMMEDIATELY.
... THAT MAN.
YOU WILL KILL...
KILL HIM!!


...BUT IS NOT OUR DUTY IN THE FIRST PLACE TO APPREHEND HIM? TO FORFEIT THAT FOR MOMENTARY FEELINGS...
...
I DO NOT KNOW WHAT HAPPENED ...
IT DOESN'T MATTER-- KILL HIM!!
*SKRITCH
THAT WOULD BE, WELL, UNWISE IN ANY CASE.
... ... LADY FARNESE, PLEASE CALM DOWN.
YOU SAW IT, COMMANDER. HIS SUPERHUMAN STRENGTH.
I WOULD ONLY DIE IN VAIN.
TO BE HONEST, THAT IS NOT POSSIBLE FOR ME.
*WHAP
OUCH.
*FX: STARE
OH, NOSE-BLEED.
*FX: TMP
AH.
COM-MANDER.

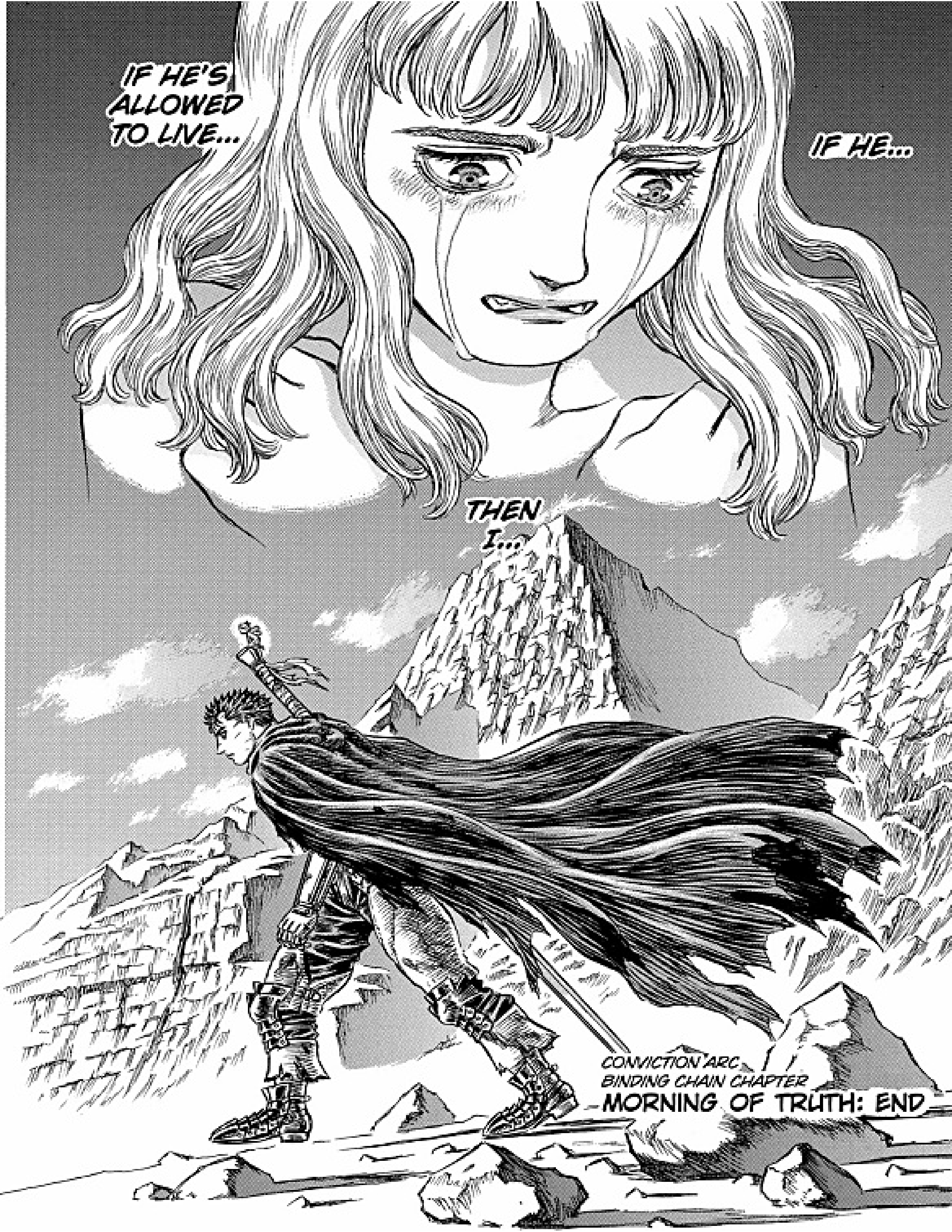

DON'T LOOK AT ME.
...YOU HAVE CAUSED HER TO CRY.
MY COMMAN-DER.
AGAIN ...
YOU JUST HEARD THE SITUATION.
AND HERE I WILL ASK YOUR PARDON FOR NOW.
IF YOU WOULD BE WILLING TO OVERLOOK THINGS...
I GUESS I OWE YOU ONE, THEN.
WHAT-EVER.
HEH!
...YES.
WELL.




*FX: ZHF
NICE DRAW STYLE.
YOU AS WELL.
JUST AS I EXPECTED.
IT WAS JUST A GRAZE, TOO.


HELL OF AN EXIT.
....
...H-HEY!
SO ON THAT NOTE, UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN!
I'VE DONE WHAT I MEANT TO DO.
FARE-WELL FOR NOW.
YOU TOO, LITTLE ONE.
HEH!
HE'S TRICKY.
BUT Y'KNOW.
SHE SEEMS KINDA SAD.
...THAT FARNESE PERSON.

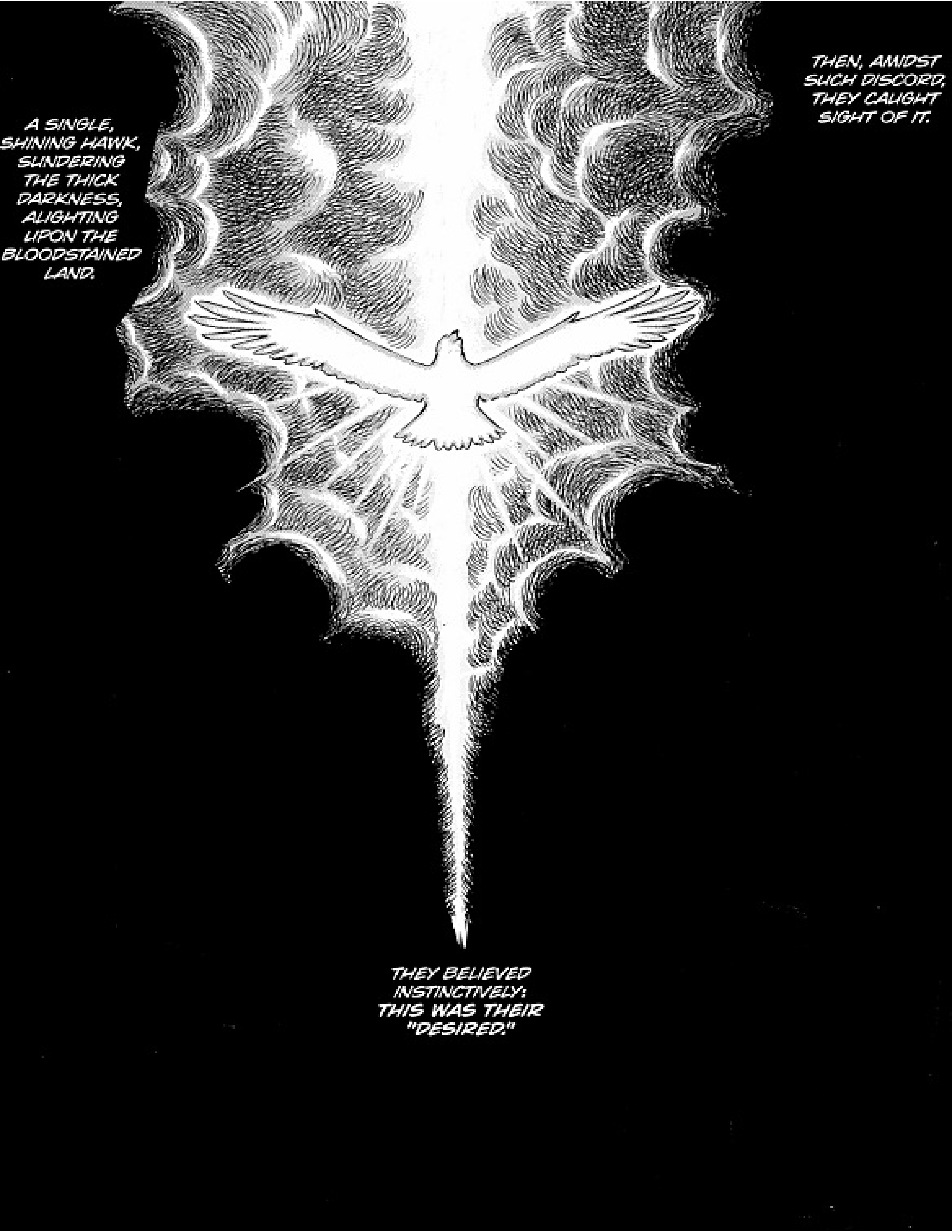

IT'S LIKE...
...SHE'S BOUND UP ON ALL SIDES.
SPEAKIN' OF WHICH, WE FORGOT TO ASK WHY THEY'RE TRYIN' TO CATCH YOU.
FROM DEAD SPIRITS TO PRIESTS--WHAT A PAIN.
I'M THE ONE WHO'S BOUND UP, MORON! NOW I'VE GOT EVEN MORE TO WORRY ABOUT.
...AND THAT IMAGE I GOT FROM GUTS BEFORE.
WHAT WAS IT...?
...I MUST KILL HIM.
COMMANDER!
PLEASE WAIT!
MUST SEAL HIS LIPS.
MUST KILL HIM, MUST KILL HIM.

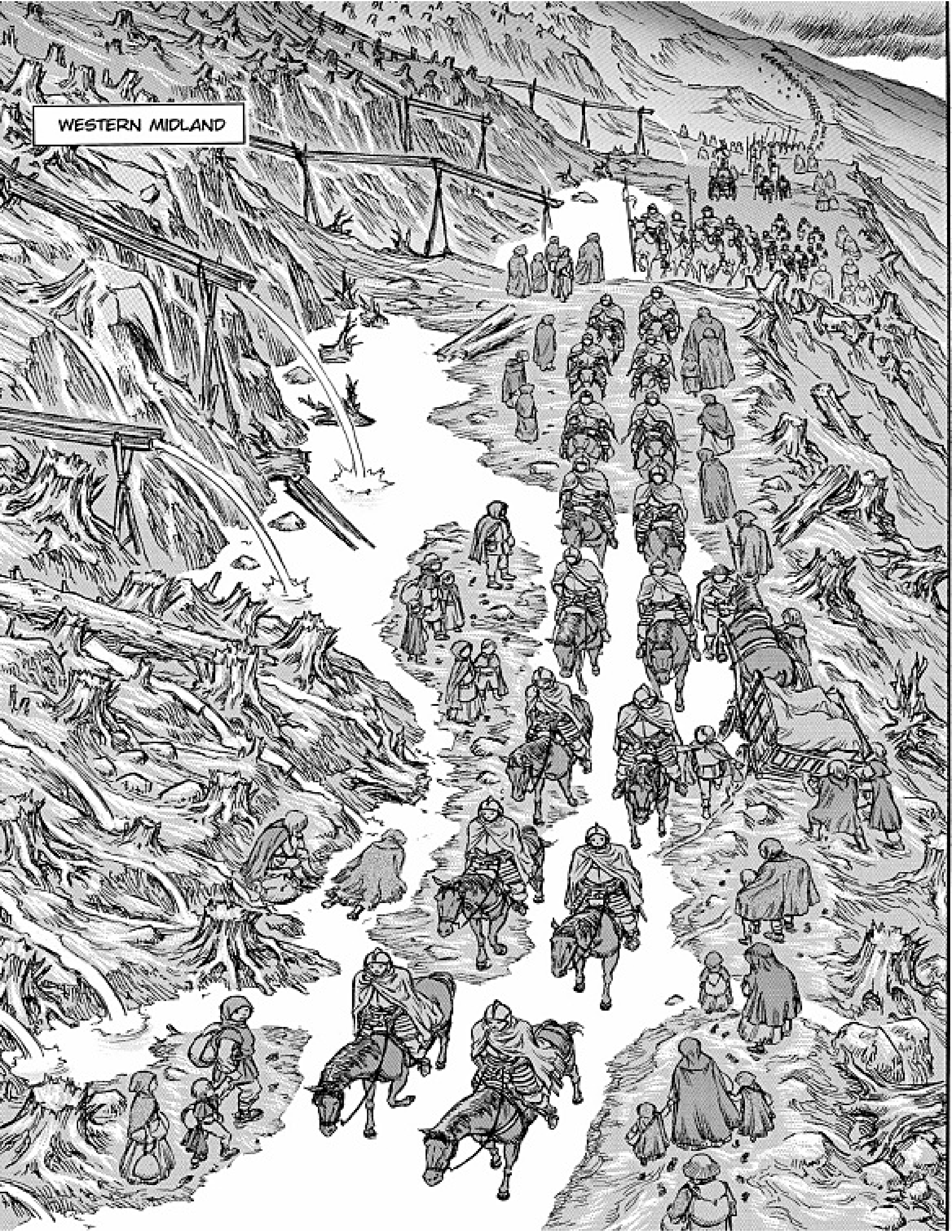

IF HE'S ALLOWED TO LIVE...
IF HE...
THEN I...
CONVICTION ARC
BINDING CHAIN CHAPTER
MORNING OF TRUTH: END


THE PEOPLE SAW IT IN THEIR SLEEP.
CONVICTION ARC
BIRTH CEREMONY CHAPTER
REVELATIONS, PART 1
断罪篇
生誕祭の章
啓示①


EACH NIGHT AN UTTER DARKNESS FULLY ENVELOPED THEIR WORLD.
EACH EVENT OCCURRED INDIVIDUALLY YET CONVERGED UPON ONE IDEA.


THERE WERE THE CORPSES OF BOTH FAMILY AND NEIGHBOR...
THERE WAS A SUN OBSCURED BY BLACK SMOKE AND MOBS OF STARVING, VAGRANT FOLK.
THERE WAS A CITY DEVASTATED BY EARTHQUAKE, TOWNS SWALLOWED BY RAGING TORRENTS.
THERE WAS A KINGDOM OF VILLAGES DYING OUT FROM PLAGUE, ROUTED BY AN ARMY DRIVING MAMMOTH BEASTS.


THEN, AMIDST SUCH DISCORD, THEY CAUGHT SIGHT OF IT.
A SINGLE, SHINING HAWK, SUNDERING THE THICK DARKNESS, ALIGHTING UPON THE BLOODSTAINED LAND.
THEY BELIEVED INSTINCTIVELY: THIS WAS THEIR "DESIRED."


WESTERN MIDLAND



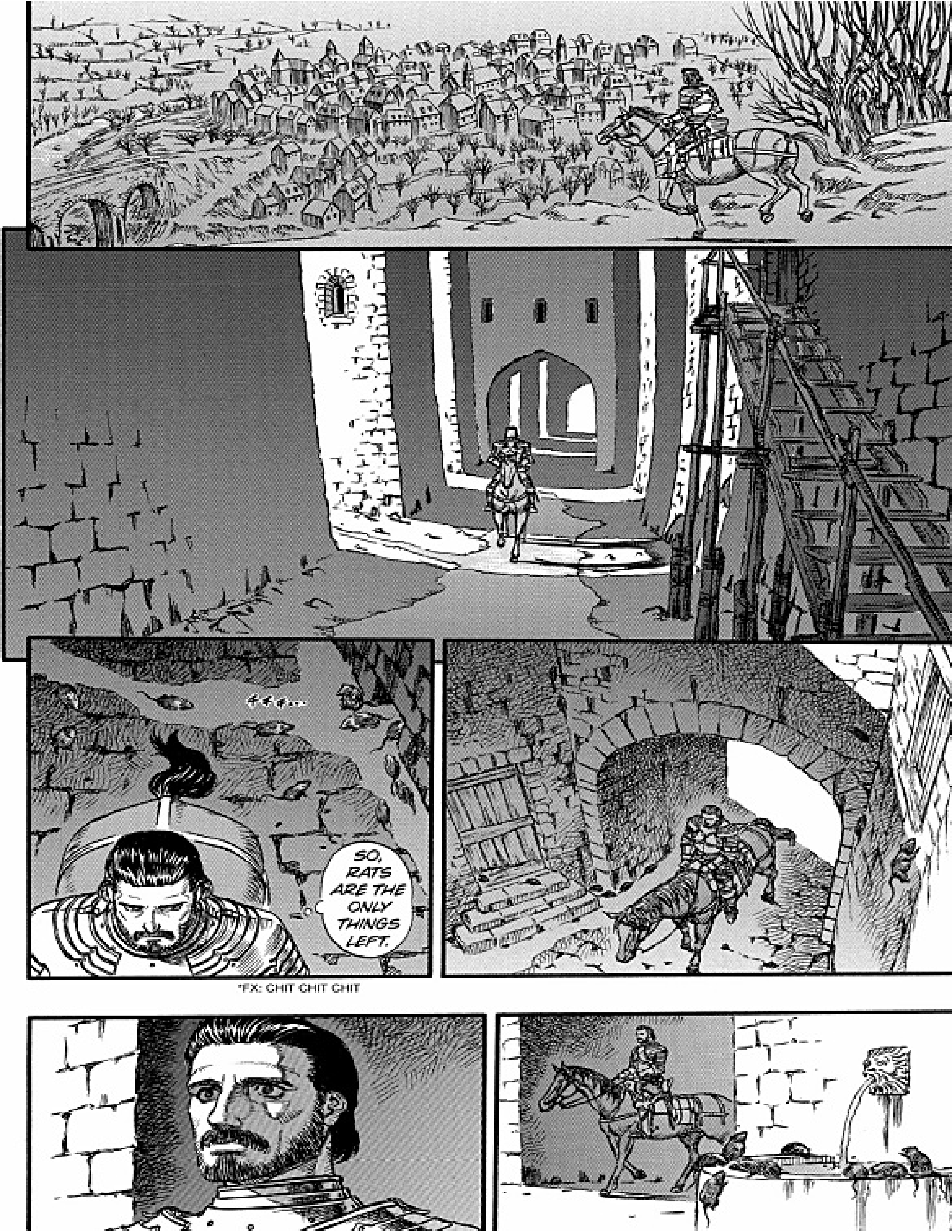
WHAT A DREADFUL SIGHT.
ALL THAT REMAINS ARE BARE MOUNTAINS.
DURING TIMES OF WAR, THE STONE AND LUMBER IN THIS AREA WAS CUT AND QUARRIED EN MASSE TO BUILD FORTS AND THE LIKE.
HEY.
I DO LOOK FORWARD TO SOME STRONG DRINK AT THE INN THIS EVENING, LORD LABAN.
BUT STILL... THIS RAIN.

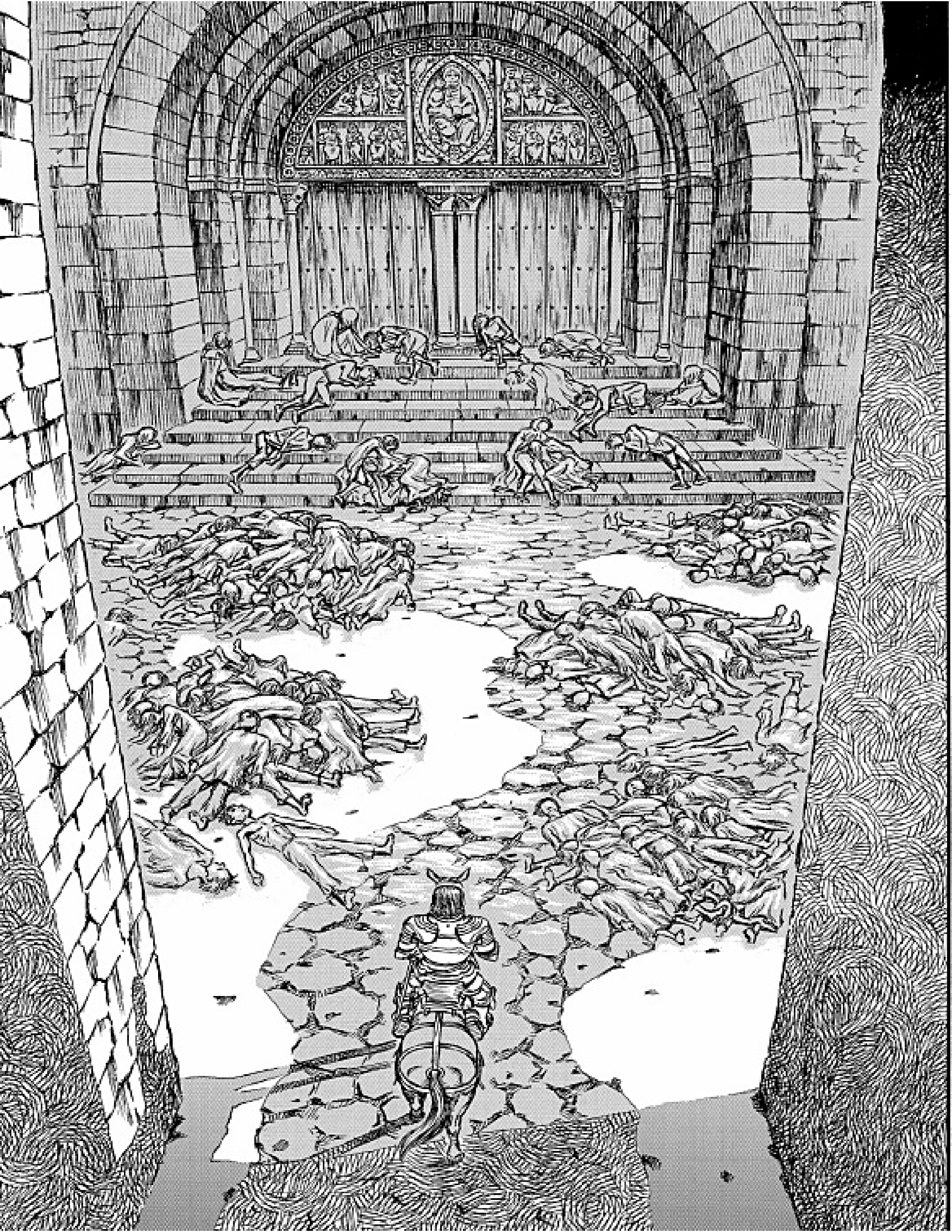


WHATEVER THE CASE, WHY THIS LARGE CROWD...?
I DO NOT KNOW... THEY SEEM TO BE COMING FROM THE TOWN AHEAD.
THAT WAS ... RASH ... OF ME.
PLEASE FORGIVE ME, OH GOD.
ドドドド
*BRODAARR
ドドドド
!


IT'S A LANDSLIDE!! THE GROUND WAS LOOSENED BY THE RAIN!!
ALL FORCES HALT!!
*TMP
EXCELLENCY!!
HEAVENS! YOUR EXCELLENCY, FOR MERE PEASANTS, TO PERSONALLY...!
RESCUE OUR SUBJECTS!!
ALL SECURITY FORCES DISMOUNT!!
ARRGH... VERY WELL, THEN!! HOP TO IT!! FOLLOW GENERAL LABAN!!
FOLLOW ME!!
HEY! HANG ON!
HNN...
THERE-- YOU'RE SAFE, NOW...


WHAT IN...?
I'LL RETURN SOON. PUT THE WOUNDED IN THE COVERED WAGON, AND TREAT THE PEASANTS TO SOMETHING WARM.
...MEANING WHAT? EXCELLENCY, WHERE ARE...?!
ADJUTANT, TAKE CARE OF THIS MESS. SHOULD YOU FINISH THE WORK BEFORE I RETURN, HAVE ALL FORCES STAND BY...AND KEEP THE PEASANTS HERE, TOO.
I'M BORROWING THIS.
EXCEL-LENCYYY!
...DON'T TELL ME...
THIS IS...


SO, RATS ARE THE ONLY THINGS LEFT.
*FX: CHIT CHIT CHIT

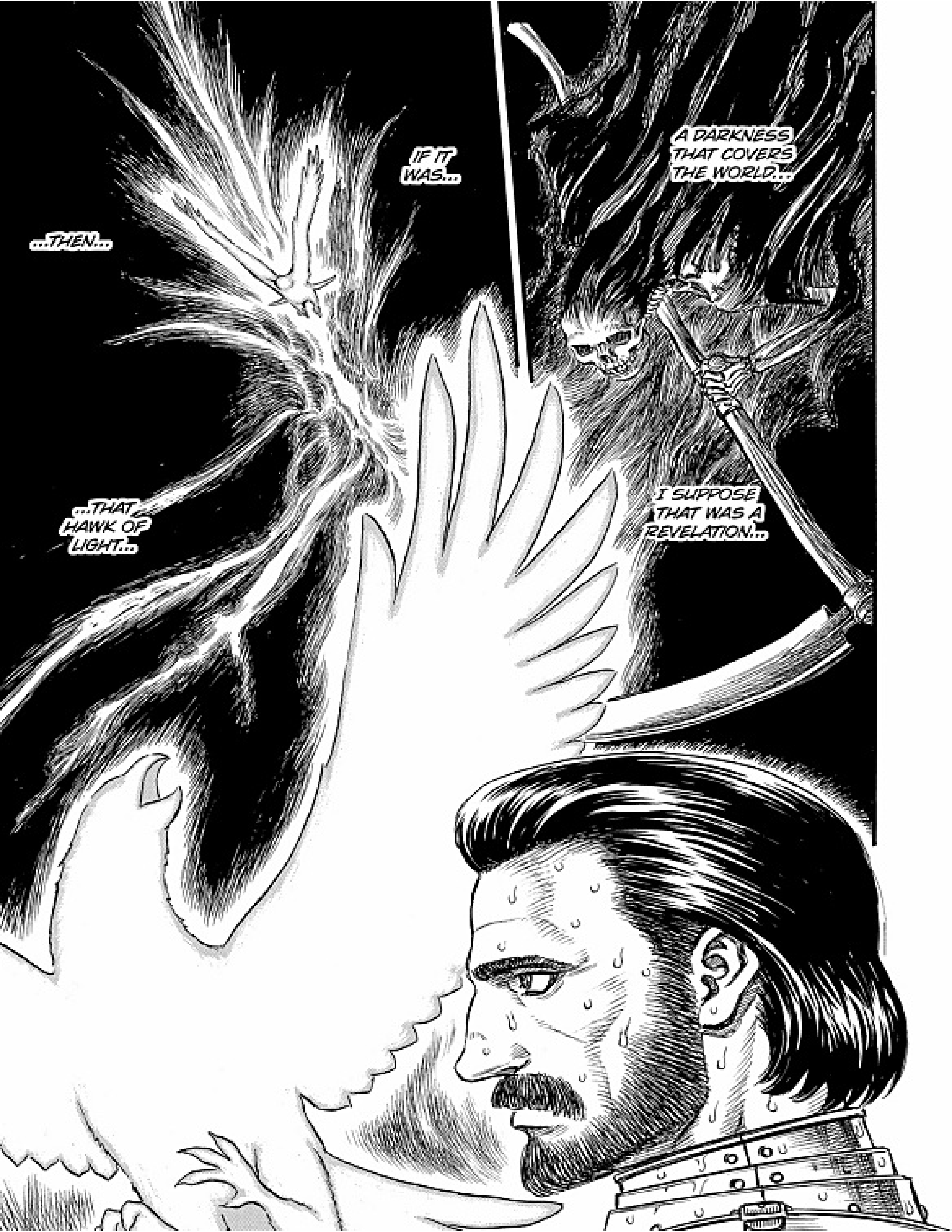




AS I FEARED ...
THE PLAGUE, THEN.
CONFOUNDED RATS.
NOW THAT THEIR FOOD SUPPLY'S SWOLLEN, THEY'VE GOT BIG AND FAT.
THEY COME FROM THE DEVIL.
THEY DONE BROUGHT THIS PLAGUE HERE.
GIT! GIT!
*FX: SQUEEK EEP EEP
*FX: WHACK WHACK
IT'S SINCE THESE RATS STARTED GROWIN' IN NUMBERS SO MUCH THAT THE PLAGUE SPREAD THROUGH THIS TOWN.
GRIM LITTLE REAPERS.
BUT THEY CAME TO THE TOWN BECAUSE PEOPLE LEFT THE HILLS BALD AND TOOK AWAY THEIR FOOD AND HOMES.
...WELL, I SAY THAT.
MAYHAPS WE REAP WHAT WE SOW.

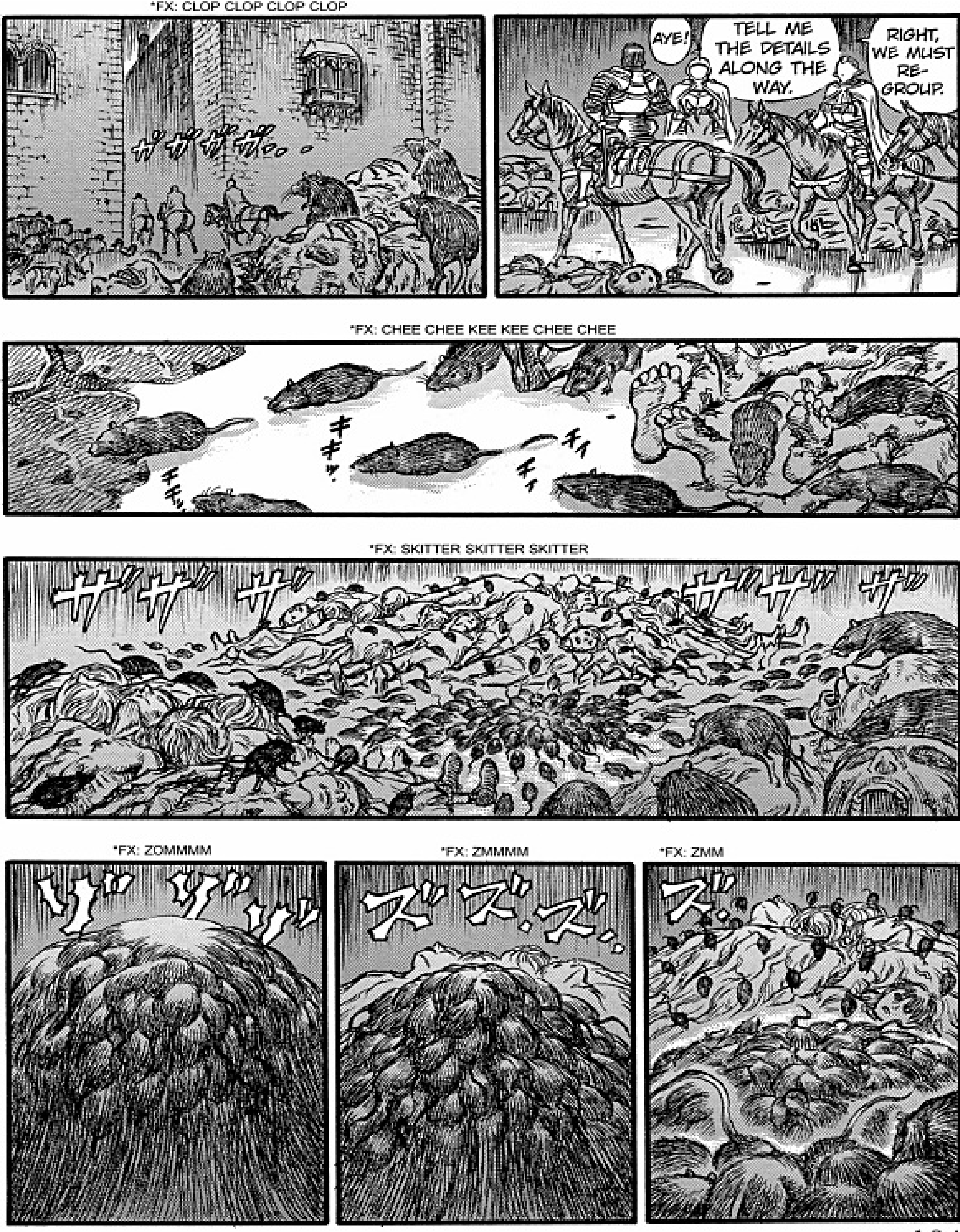

ザァーーーァーーァ
....
YOU WON'T LEAVE THE TOWN, OLD ONE?
I DON'T CARE TO DESERT THIS TOWN AT MY AGE. MY WHOLE FAMILY'S DEAD ANYWAYS.
WAVING YOUR SWORD AROUND WILL DO NO GOOD IN THESE PARTS.
YOU'D BEST BE OFF NOW BEFORE DEATH HAUNTS YOU TOO, SIR KNIGHT.
*FX: FSHHHHHH
I'VE SEEN THE SAME KIND OF SPECTACLE THROUGHOUT THE KINGDOM.
IT ISN'T JUST THIS TOWN.
SUCH A DARK SHADOW NOW COVERS ALL OF MIDLAND-- NO, IT'S NOT JUST LIMITED TO THIS KINGDOM.
MERCENARY BANDS TURNED ROBBERS.
FAMINE.
PLAGUE.
IS THIS THE PRICE OF A HUNDRED YEARS OF WAR?


YET, OVER SEVEN TENTHS OF THE MILITARY HAVE SPENT TWO YEARS... SEARCHING FOR A CRIMINAL WE'RE NOT EVEN CERTAIN STILL LIVES.
IT'S VEXING... A TIME LIKE THIS IS PRECISELY WHEN THE ENTIRE KINGDOM'S EFFORTS MUST BE DEVOTED TO REBUILDING.
THE STATE HIS MAJESTY IS IN... WHAT IS IT?
WHAT ON EARTH HAPPENED THAT DAY TWO YEARS AGO?
THOSE EYES...
SURELY THEY ARE A MADMAN'S...
ALAS ...
THE SEARCH HAS EXCEEDED ITS PURPOSE.
...BUT THIS KINGDOM-WIDE DESOLATION IS A FACT.
TO SAY THIS CRISIS WILL DECIDE ALL OUR FATES IS NO EXAGGERATION.

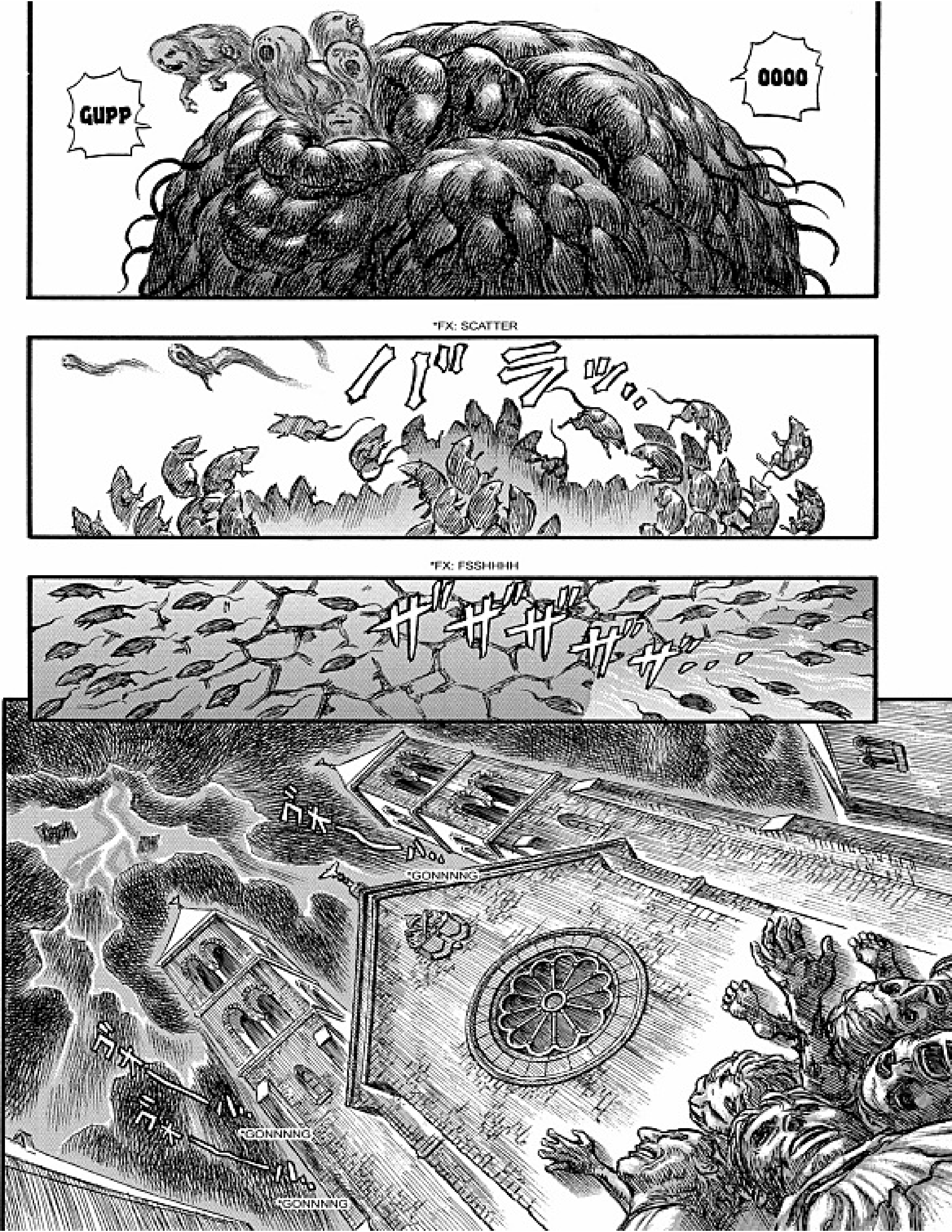

A DARKNESS THAT COVERS THE WORLD...
IF IT WAS...
...THEN...
...THAT HAWK OF LIGHT...
I SUPPOSE THAT WAS A REVELATION...


IF THE DREAM IS A REVELATION, WHAT DOES THAT PART SIGNIFY?
TO ME, AT LEAST, WHAT A HAWK SYMBOLIZES ...
--NO.
FOR ALL THE PEOPLE OF MIDLAND...
...THERE'S BUT ONE AND NO OTHER!!
IT MAY BE ABSURD, BUT WHEN YOU THINK OF IT SUCH...
...EVEN THIS SEARCH THAT SEEMS MEANINGLESS...
EXCELLENCY!!
...CAN BE SEEN TO POSSESS SOME SENSE OF PURPOSE.
*FX: DBADUMP BDADUMP
SO YOU'VE COME, ADJUTANT. AS YOU SEE, WE MUST ALSO BLOCKADE THIS TOWN AT ONCE...
YOU DON'T LOOK WELL. BUT IT'S NO SURPRISE UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES.
YOU JEST, EXCELLENCY. I HAVE HAD MY FILL OF SEEING PEOPLE DROP FROM THE PLAGUE.
HOWEVER, THAT IS...
IT IS ANOTHER STORY FOR THE HEAD OF OUR KINGDOM.

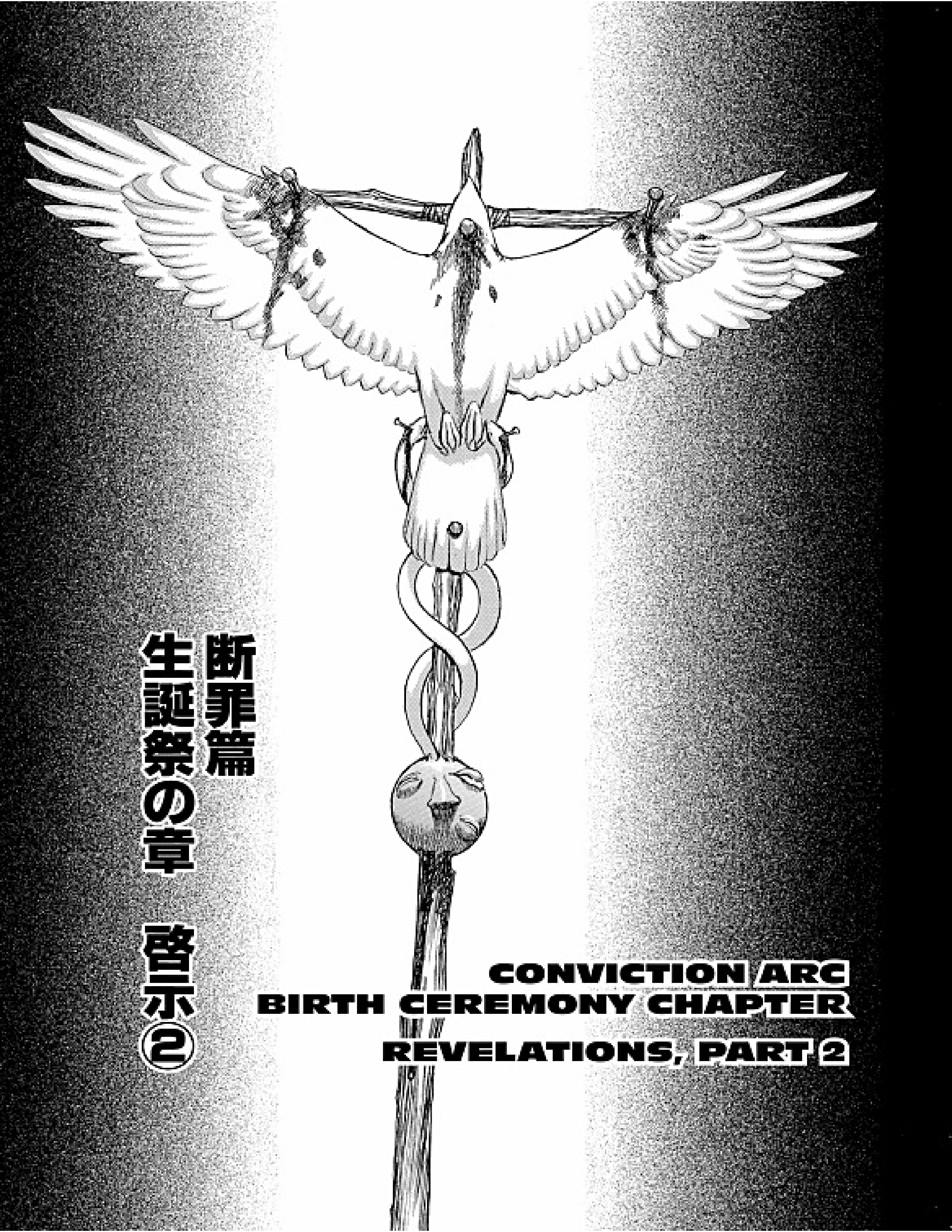

...SAY WHAT ?
A MESSAGE RIDER JUST CAME FROM WINDHAM.
HIS ROYAL MAJESTY ...
...HAS SUCCUMBED TO ILLNESS.

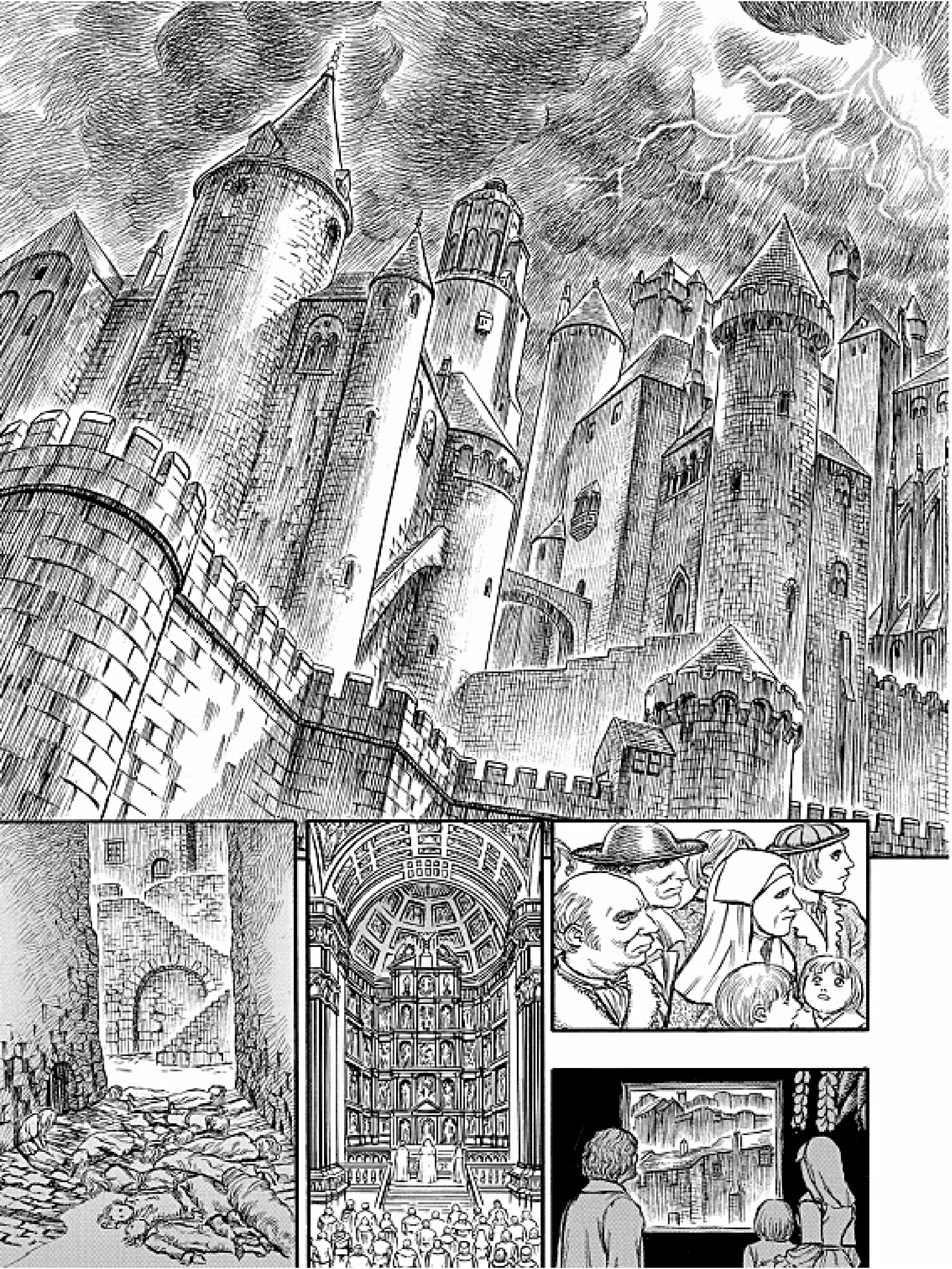

RIGHT, WE MUST RE-GROUP.
TELL ME THE DETAILS ALONG THE WAY.
AYE!
*FX: CLOP CLOP CLOP CLOP
*FX: CHEE CHEE KEE KEE CHEE CHEE
*FX: SKITTER SKITTER SKITTER
*FX: ZMM
*FX: ZMMMM
*FX: ZOMMMM



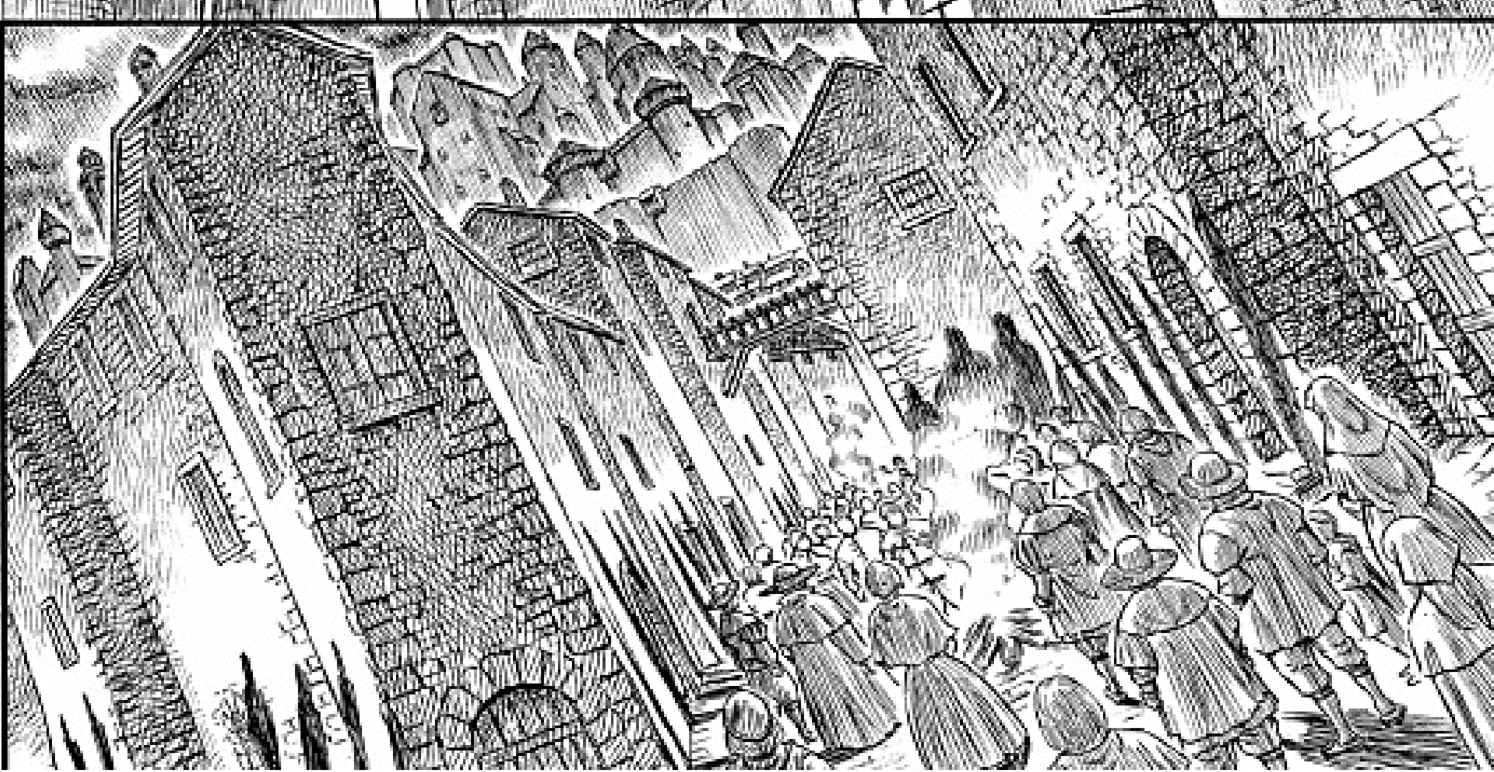


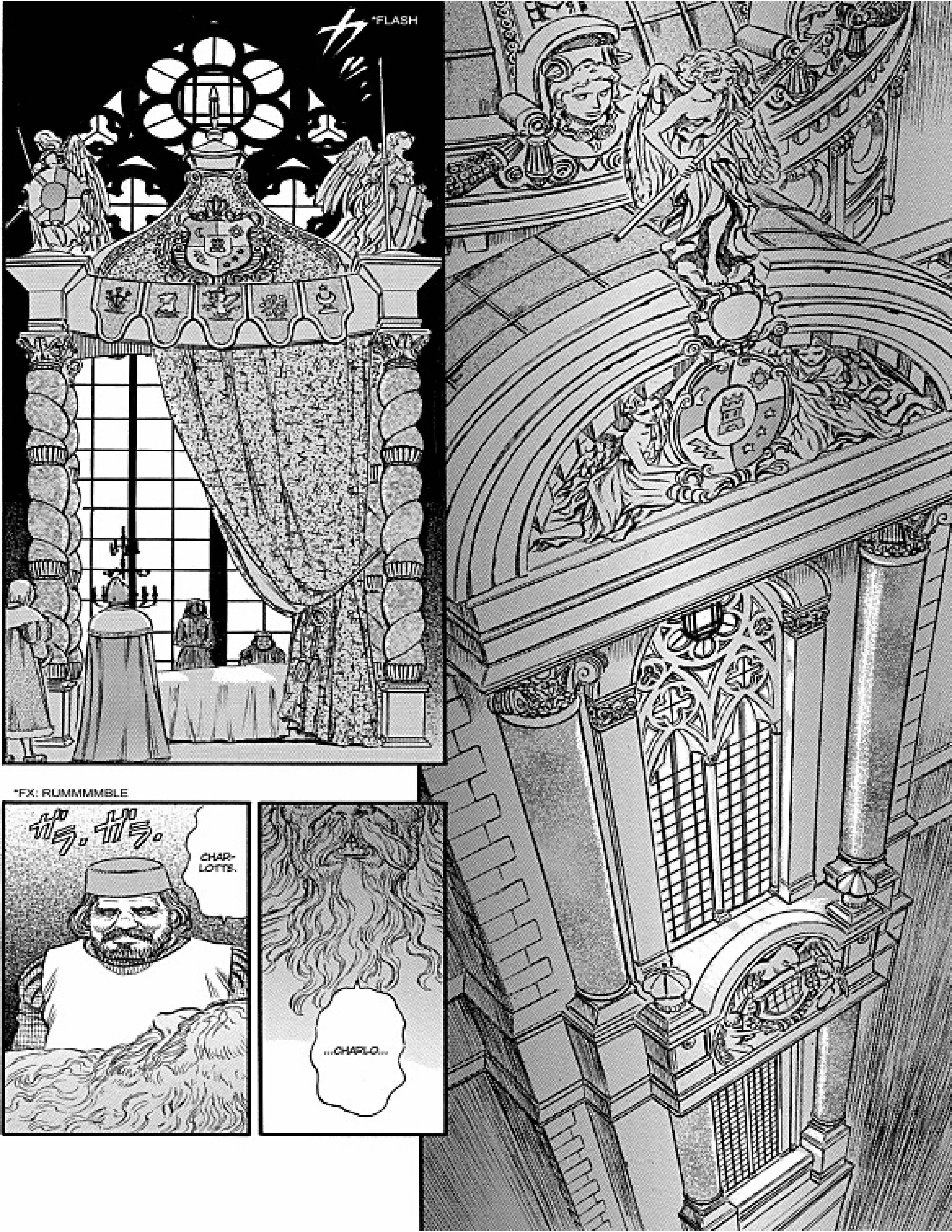
OOOO
GUPP
*FX: SCATTER
*FX: FSSHHHH
*GONNNNG
*GONNNNG
*GONNNNG

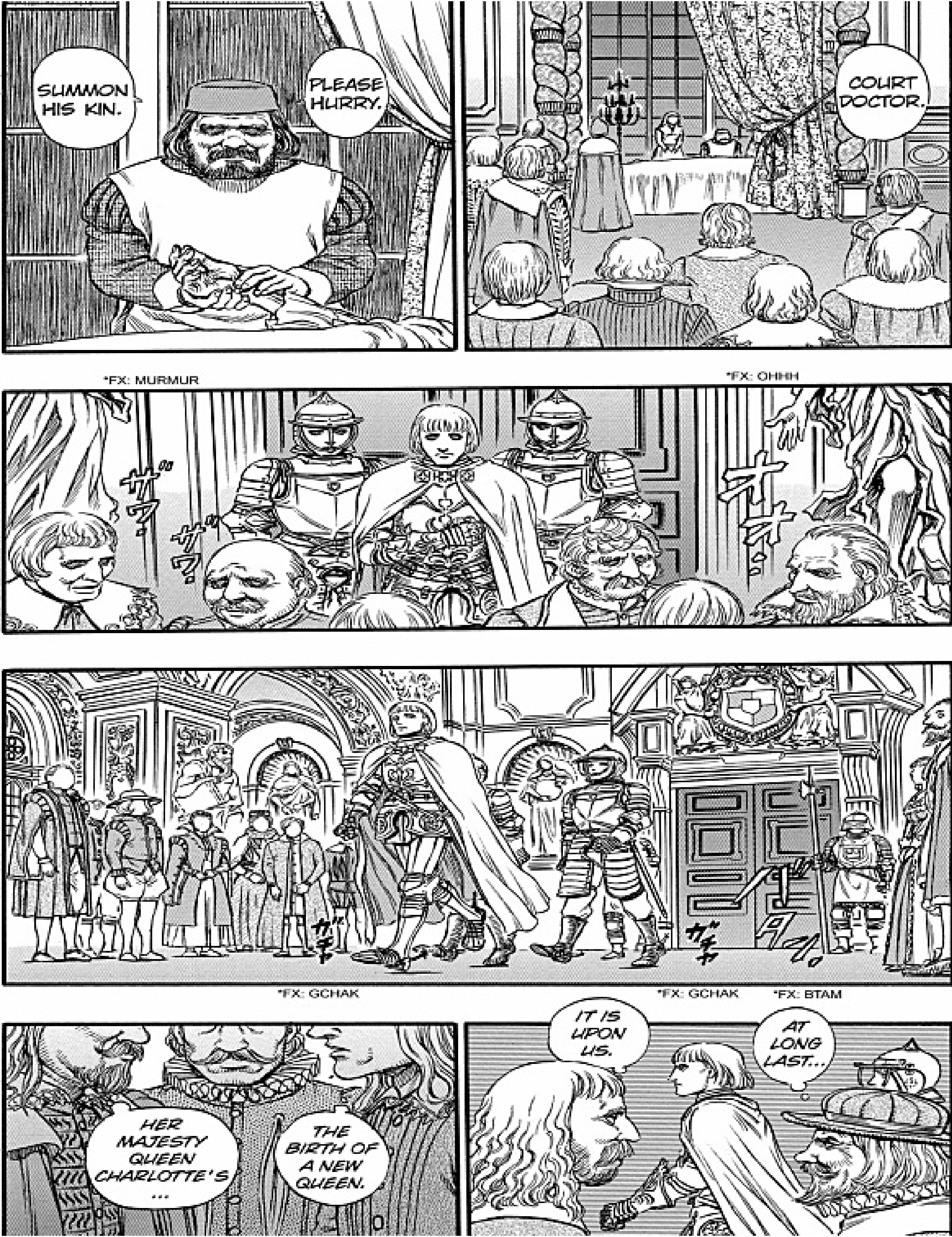

断罪篇
生誕祭の章　啓示②
CONVICTION ARC
BIRTH CEREMONY CHAPTER
REVELATIONS, PART 2

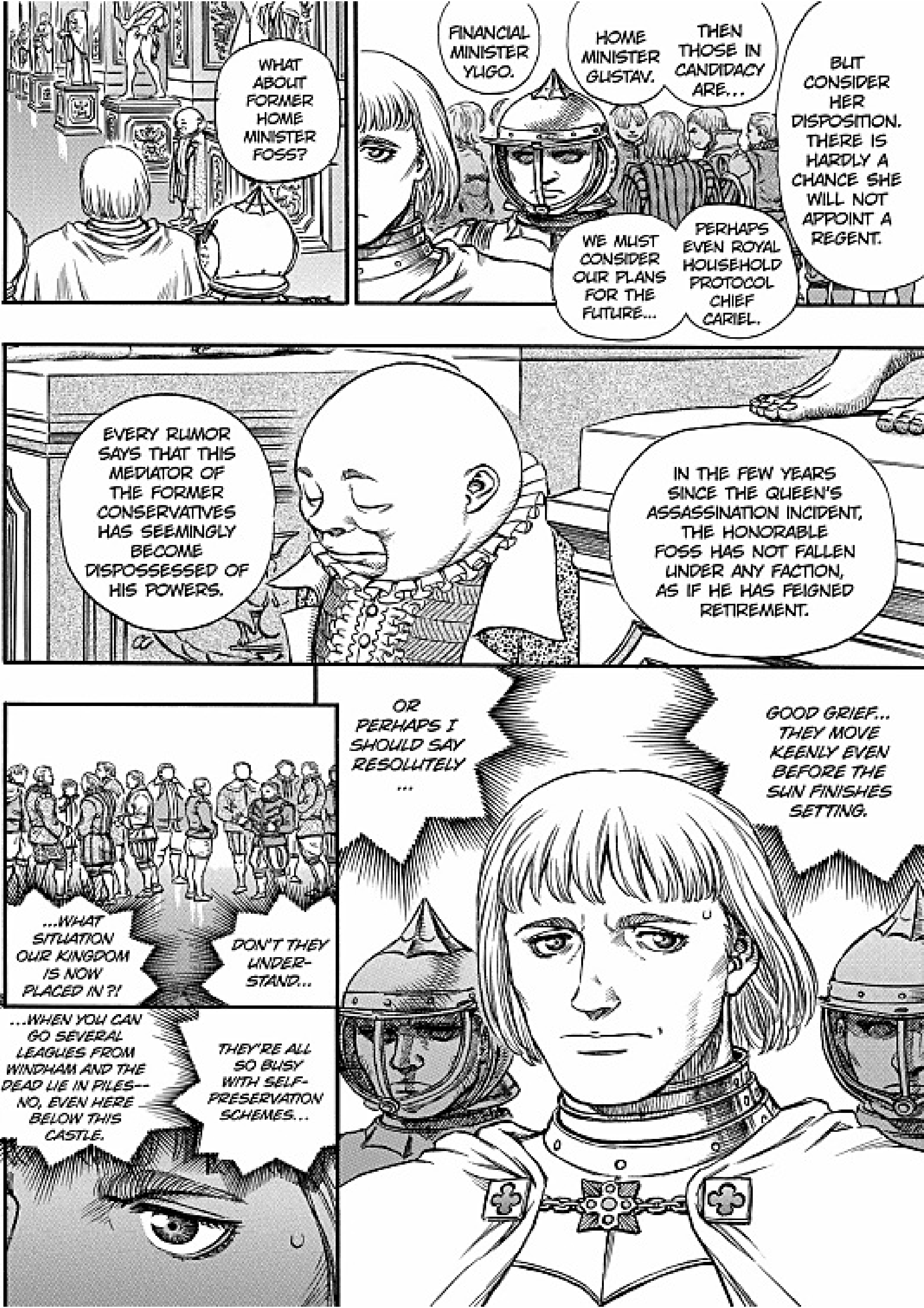



WINDHAM CASTLE

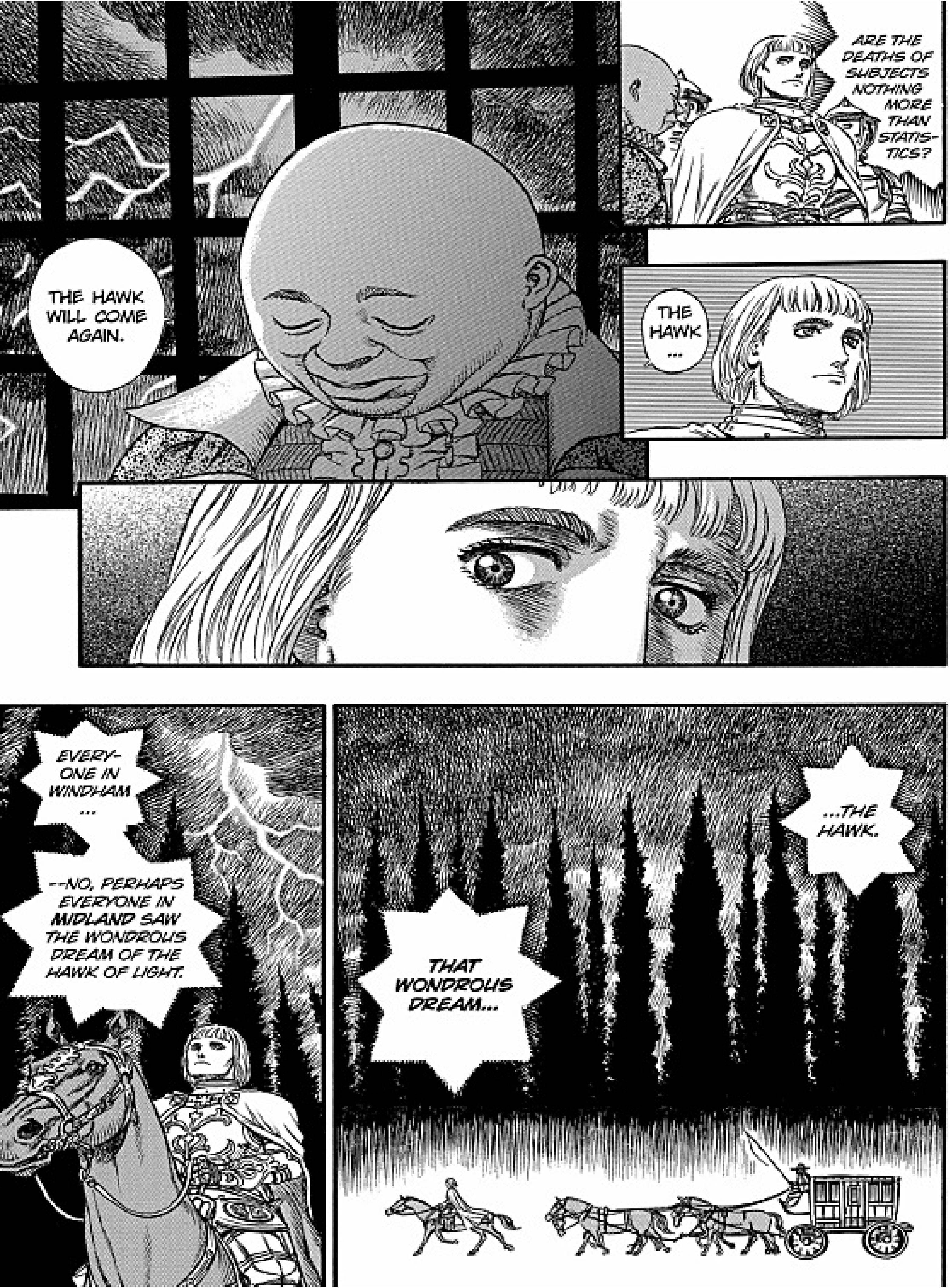


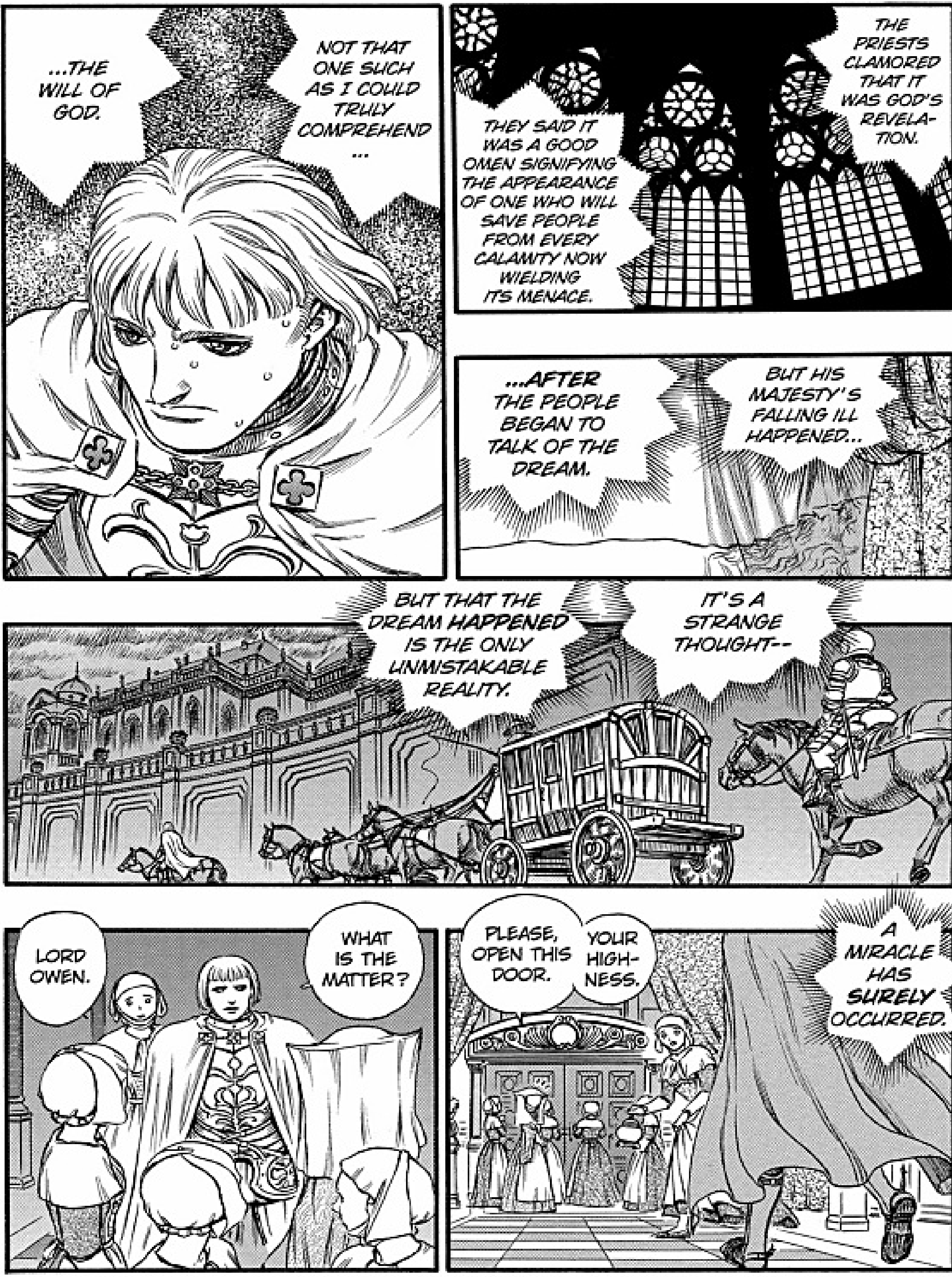

*FLASH
*FX: RUMMMMBLE
CHAR-
LOTTE.
...CHARLO...


COURT DOCTOR.
PLEASE HURRY.
SUMMON HIS KIN.
*FX: OHHH
*FX: MURMUR
*FX: BTAM
*FX: GCHAK
*FX: GCHAK
AT LONG LAST...
IT IS UPON US.
THE BIRTH OF A NEW QUEEN.
HER MAJESTY QUEEN CHARLOTTE'S ...

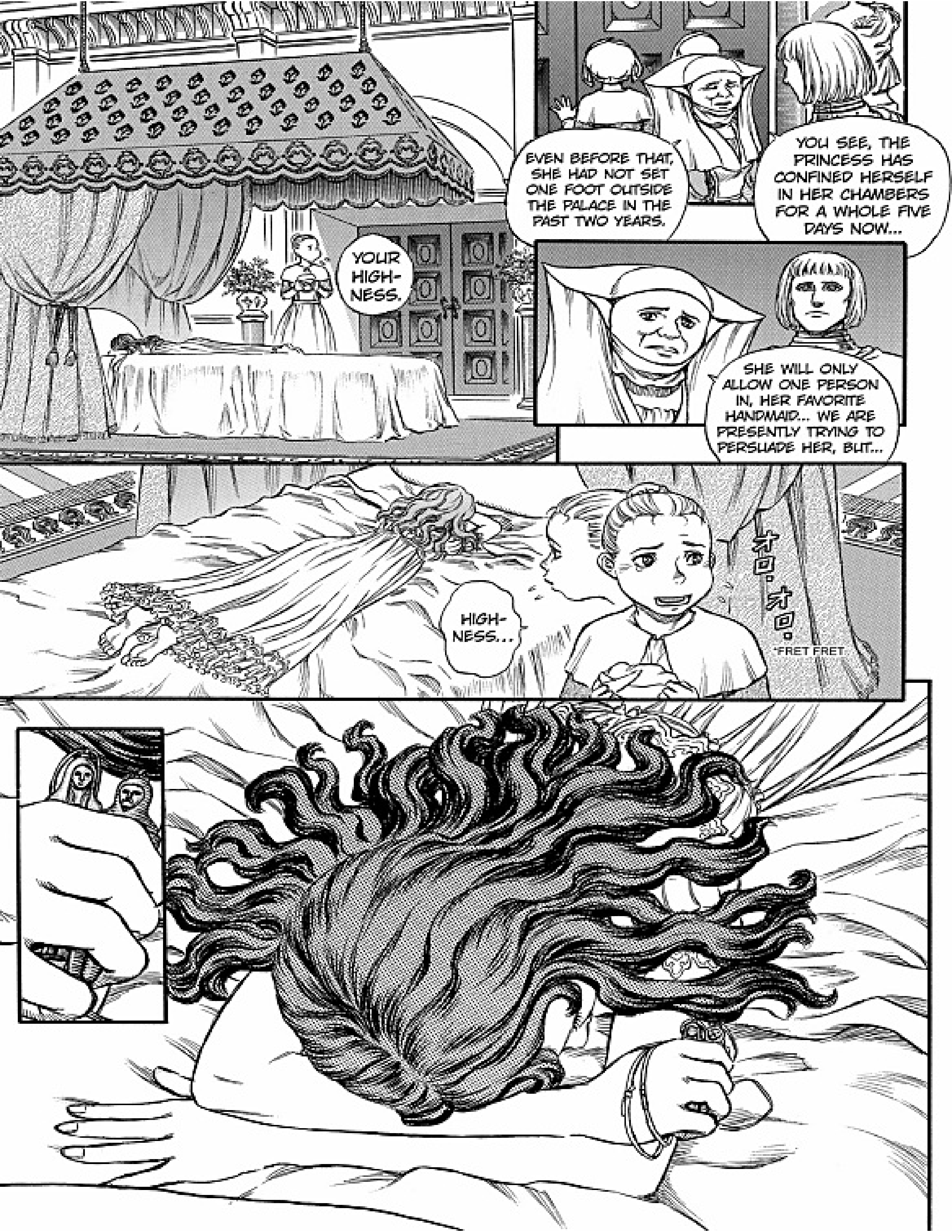


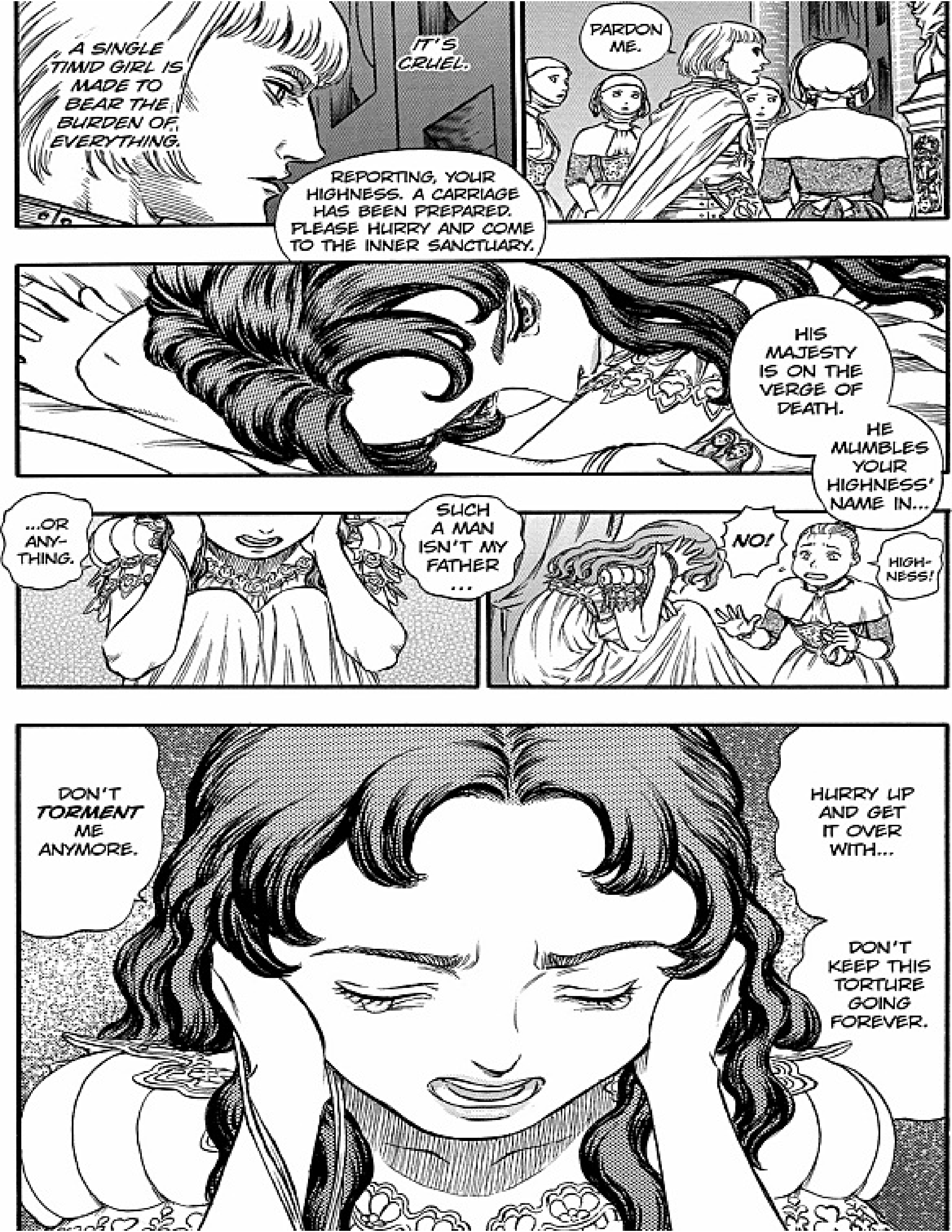
BUT CONSIDER HER DISPOSITION. THERE IS HARDLY A CHANCE SHE WILL NOT APPOINT A REGENT.
THEN THOSE IN CANDIDACY ARE...
HOME MINISTER GUSTAV.
FINANCIAL MINISTER YUGO.
PERHAPS EVEN ROYAL HOUSEHOLD PROTOCOL CHIEF CARIEL.
WE MUST CONSIDER OUR PLANS FOR THE FUTURE...
WHAT ABOUT FORMER HOME MINISTER FOSS?
IN THE FEW YEARS SINCE THE QUEEN'S ASSASSINATION INCIDENT, THE HONORABLE FOSS HAS NOT FALLEN UNDER ANY FACTION, AS IF HE HAS FEIGNED RETIREMENT.
EVERY RUMOR SAYS THAT THIS MEDIATOR OF THE FORMER CONSERVATIVES HAS SEEMINGLY BECOME DISPOSSESSED OF HIS POWERS.
GOOD GRIEF... THEY MOVE KEENLY EVEN BEFORE THE SUN FINISHES SETTING.
OR PERHAPS I SHOULD SAY RESOLUTELY ...
DON'T THEY UNDER-STAND...
...WHAT SITUATION OUR KINGDOM IS NOW PLACED IN?!
THEY'RE ALL SO BUSY WITH SELF-PRESERVATION SCHEMES...
...WHEN YOU CAN GO SEVERAL LEAGUES FROM WINDHAM AND THE DEAD LIE IN PILES-- NO, EVEN HERE BELOW THIS CASTLE.


ARE THE DEATHS OF SUBJECTS NOTHING MORE THAN STATIS-TICS?
THE HAWK WILL COME AGAIN.
THE HAWK ...
EVERY-ONE IN WINDHAM ...
--NO, PERHAPS EVERYONE IN MIDLAND SAW THE WONDROUS DREAM OF THE HAWK OF LIGHT.
...THE HAWK.
THAT WONDROUS DREAM...



...THE WILL OF GOD.
NOT THAT ONE SUCH AS I COULD TRULY COMPREHEND...
THE PRIESTS CLAMORED THAT IT WAS GOD'S REVELATION.
THEY SAID IT WAS A GOOD OMEN SIGNIFYING THE APPEARANCE OF ONE WHO WILL SAVE PEOPLE FROM EVERY CALAMITY NOW WIELDING ITS MENACE.
BUT HIS MAJESTY'S FALLING ILL HAPPENED...
...AFTER THE PEOPLE BEGAN TO TALK OF THE DREAM.
IT'S A STRANGE THOUGHT--
BUT THAT THE DREAM HAPPENED IS THE ONLY UNMISTAKABLE REALITY.
A MIRACLE HAS SURELY OCCURRED.
YOUR HIGHNESS.
PLEASE, OPEN THIS DOOR.
WHAT IS THE MATTER?
LORD OWEN.


YOU SEE, THE PRINCESS HAS CONFINED HERSELF IN HER CHAMBERS FOR A WHOLE FIVE DAYS NOW...
EVEN BEFORE THAT, SHE HAD NOT SET ONE FOOT OUTSIDE THE PALACE IN THE PAST TWO YEARS.
YOUR HIGH-NESS.
SHE WILL ONLY ALLOW ONE PERSON IN, HER FAVORITE HANDMAID... WE ARE PRESENTLY TRYING TO PERSUADE HER, BUT...
オロ オロ
*FRET FRET
HIGH-NESS...

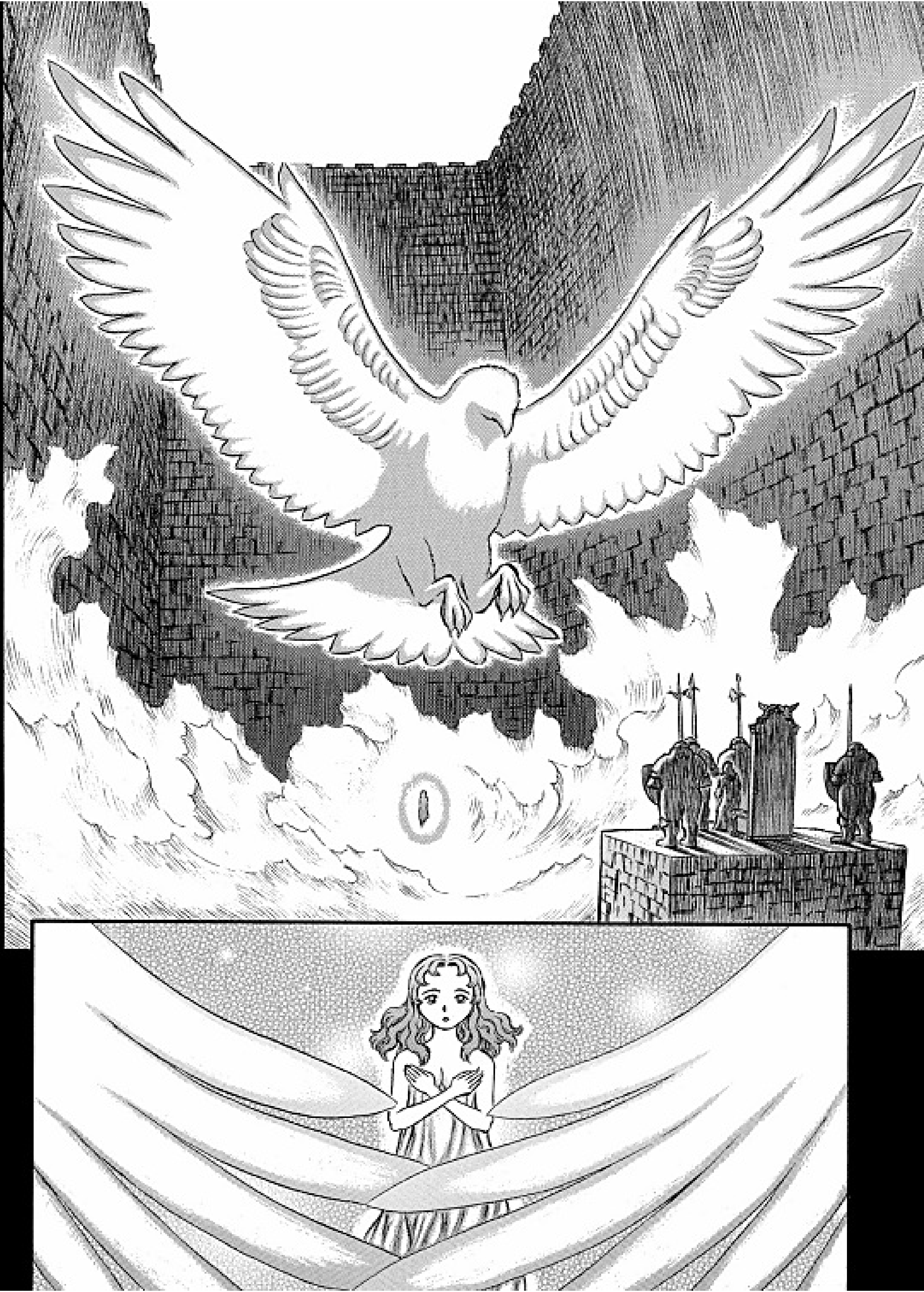

A SINGLE TIMID GIRL IS MADE TO BEAR THE BURDEN OF EVERYTHING.
IT'S CRUEL.
PARDON ME.
REPORTING, YOUR HIGHNESS. A CARRIAGE HAS BEEN PREPARED. PLEASE HURRY AND COME TO THE INNER SANCTUARY.
HIS MAJESTY IS ON THE VERGE OF DEATH.
HE MUMBLES YOUR HIGHNESS' NAME IN...
HIGH-NESS!
NO!
SUCH A MAN ISN'T MY FATHER ...
...OR ANY-THING.
HURRY UP AND GET IT OVER WITH...
DON'T *TORMENT* ME ANYMORE.
DON'T KEEP THIS TORTURE GOING FOREVER.


IT'S COLD...
ALMOST AS IF I'M FREEZING.
THE KING ON HIS THRONE.
!
MAGNIFICENT CASTLE WALLS.
BUT I CANNOT DEFEND AGAINST THE COLD THIS WAY.
STONE WALLS MERELY AUGMENT THE COLD.
SOMEONE LIGHT A FIRE...


ON HIS THRONE.
THE KING ON HIS THRONE.
WITH THESE MEN AND THESE WALLS, MY CASTLE SHALL NOT WAVER.
VALIANT SOLDIERS.
OHH...
I SHALL FREEZE TO DEATH AT THIS RATE...
...BUT FOR NOW, A FIRE.
!

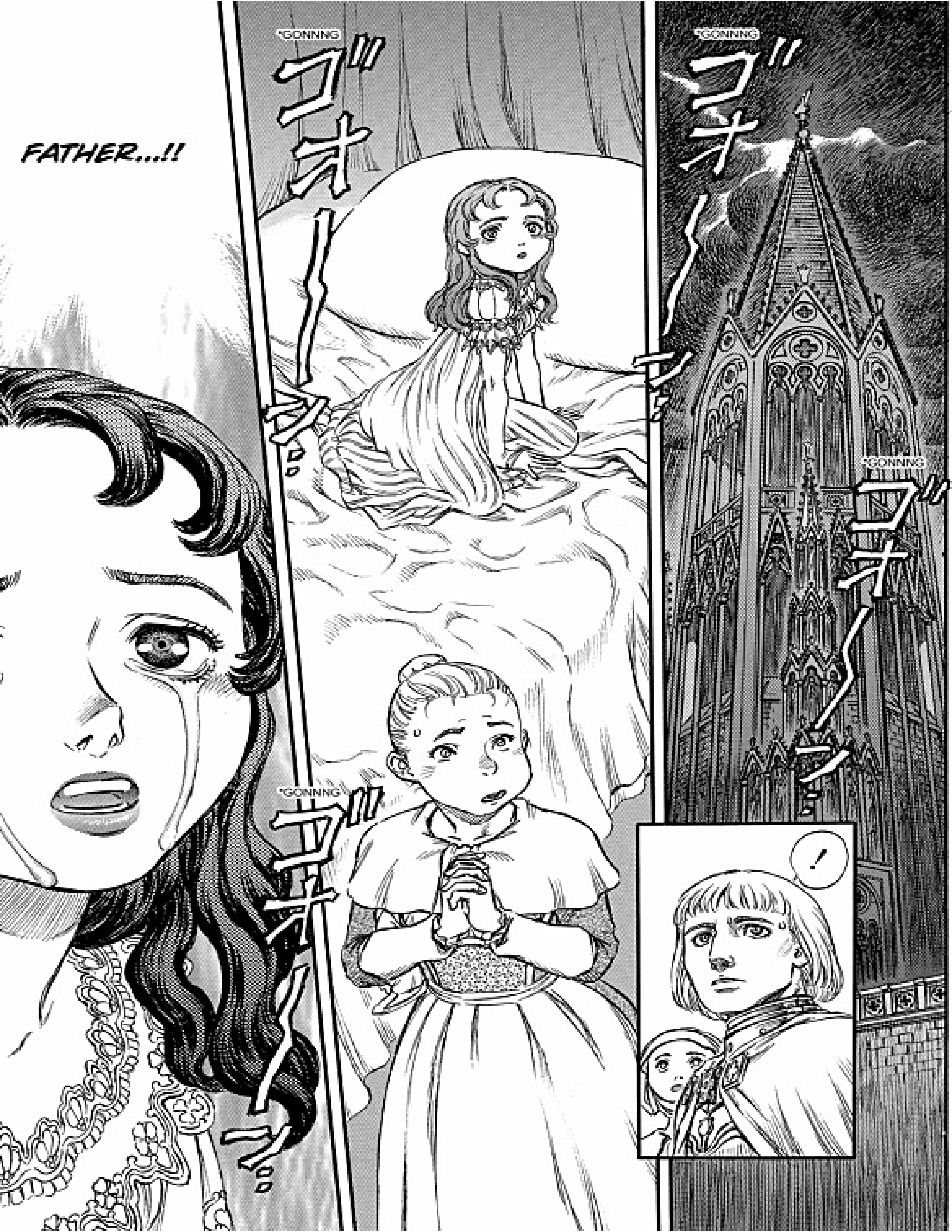


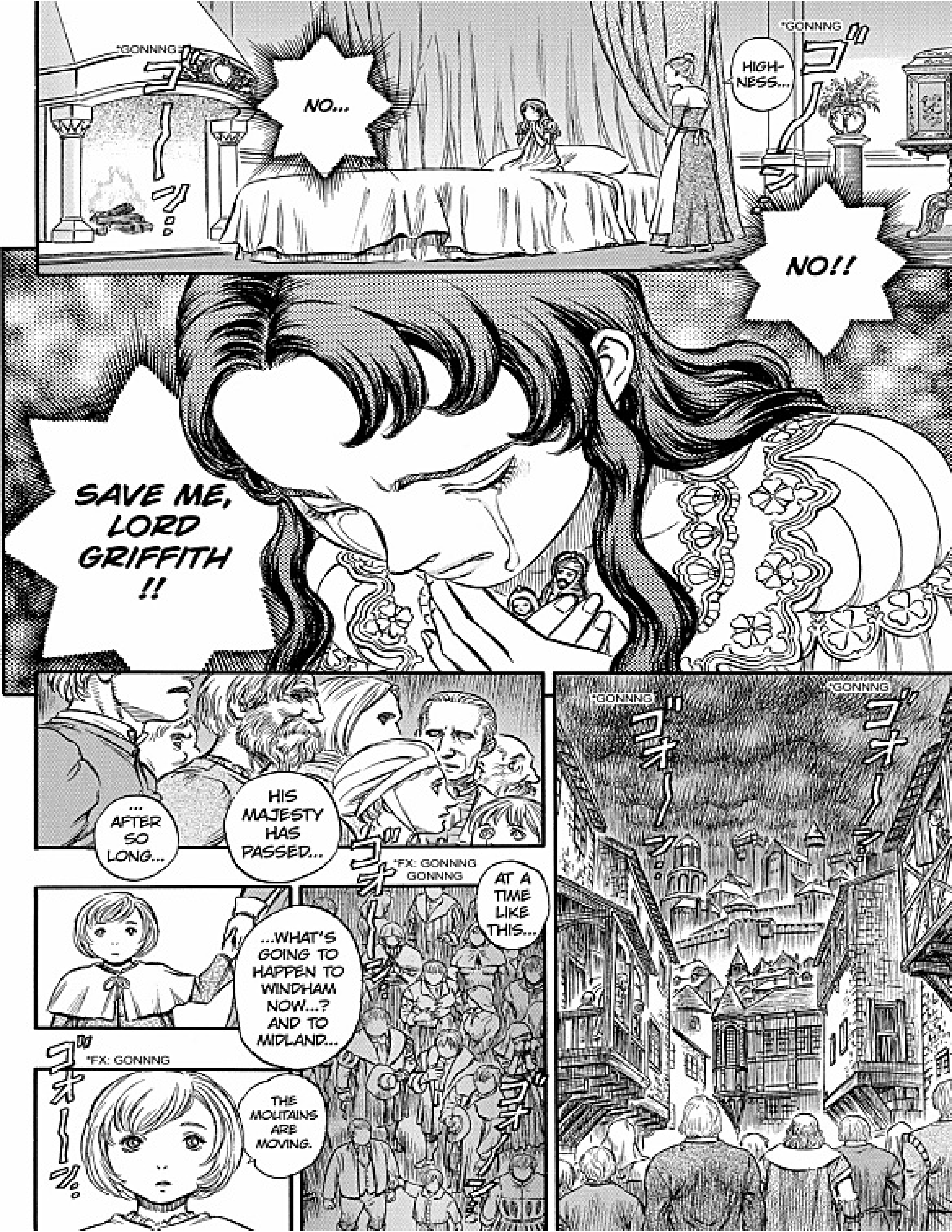
ENOUGH ALREADY!! I HAVE NO NEED OF SOLDIERS NOW!!
FIRE! SOMEONE BRING FIRE!!
BRING WARMTH ...
*POFF
ポッ
OHH, THAT'S IT!
WHAT I WISH FOR... WARMTH...
!
ON HIS THRONE.
THE KING ON HIS THRONE.
WHAT ...?!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING ?!
MOVE !!
MOVE ASIDE ...!!
MY DESIRED IS--



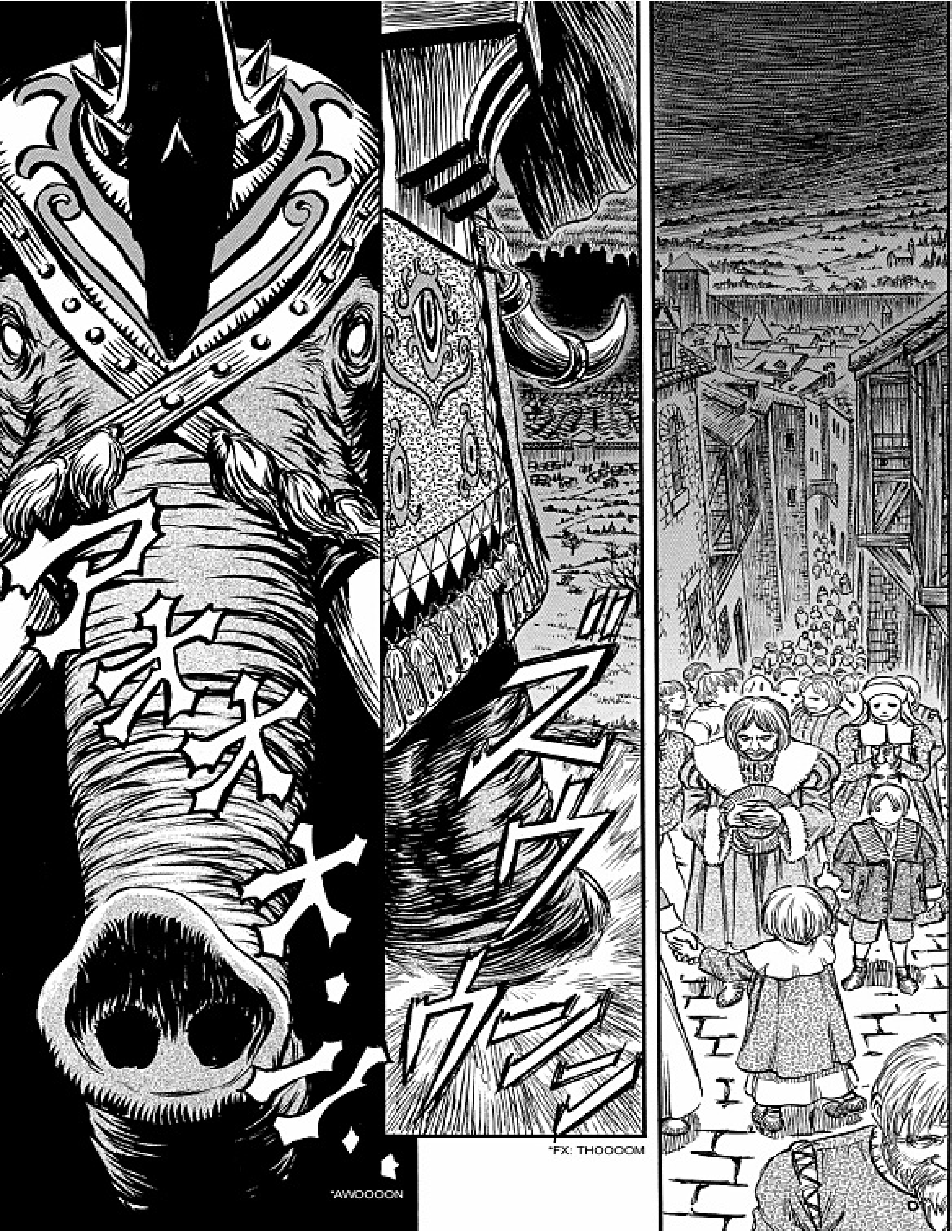

WHA ...?!
HAWK ...A HAWK ?!
STOP THAT!!
GET AWAY !!
THAT'S MY...
...PRE-CIOUS...
SHE'S THE KING'S LIFE ...!!
G-GET AWAYYY.
*FX: VWOOOSH
ゴオオオオオ
... ...!!


...YES.
PERHAPS IT IS SO...
PERHAPS I SOUGHT AFTER...
...AFTER YOU...
...AS A RESCUER TO LIBERATE ME--
ON HIS THRONE.
A SOLITARY MAN.
FROM THIS PRISON CALLED A THRONE, TO MADNESS...
*FX: WHOOOOOOOO
THE KING ON HIS THRONE.
*FLASH
*RUMMBLE
*RUMMBLE


*GONNNG
*GONNNG
!
*GONNNG
*GONNNG
FATHER...!!



*GONNNG
HIGH-NESS...
*GONNNG
NO...
NO!!
SAVE ME, LORD GRIFFITH !!
*GONNNG
*GONNNG
HIS MAJESTY HAS PASSED...
...AFTER SO LONG...
*FX: GONNNG GONNNG
AT A TIME LIKE THIS...
...WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO WINDHAM NOW...? AND TO MIDLAND...
*FX: GONNNG
THE MOUTAINS ARE MOVING.


*AWOOOON
*FX: THOOOOM


CONVICTION ARC
BIRTH CEREMONY CHAPTER
REVELATIONS 2: END



BERSERK


NO WAY... !!
JUST ONE MAN AGAINST...
...A BAND OF THREE HUNDRED MERCENARIES ...!!
U-U-U-UNBE-LIEV-ABLE !!
I... I KNEW IT!!
I KNEW WE SHOULDN'T HAVE TAKEN THIS GUY ON!!
B-BLAME THE BOSS!! HE WAS SO HUNG UP ON GETTING FAMOUS...!!
THE LEGEND WAS REAL!
HE'S THE GOD OF THE BATTLEFIELD ...
TH-THE IMMORTAL ...ZO--
*FX: GSHANG






*FX: CAWWW CAWWW CAWWW
JUST HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I...
...SCOURED BATTLEFIELDS, SITTING ON PILES OF CORPSES THAT I'VE MADE?


WANDERING FOR THREE HUNDRED YEARS.
I GUESS SEEKING AMONG MAN REALLY IS USELESS.
I'VE STOOD BEFORE THE APOSTLES SO MANY TIMES...
BUT SOMEHOW THEY'RE NO GOOD...
THEY CANNOT SATISFY ME.
...THERE REALLY ARE NONE BUT YOU, WRETCH.
OH, YES. THAT MAN.
THE BRANDED SWORDS-MAN.
THE RUMORS SAY HE'S CUT DOWN SEVERAL APOSTLES...
HE MUST NOW BE SOMEWHERE, CREEPING ABOUT IN THE NIGHT.


*FX: CAWW CAWW CAWW
*FX: FLAP FLAP
IN ANY EVENT...
...MY DESIRED IS JUST ONE THING...


WHAT'S THIS...?!
WHA...
THE DUSK BETWEEN DREAM AND CONSCIOUSNESS.
THIS IS WITHIN YOUR DOZING.
WHAT YOU SOUGHT WERE NOT WORDS.
IMMORTAL.
YOU'RE --
YOU MEAN--
!
WHY ?!



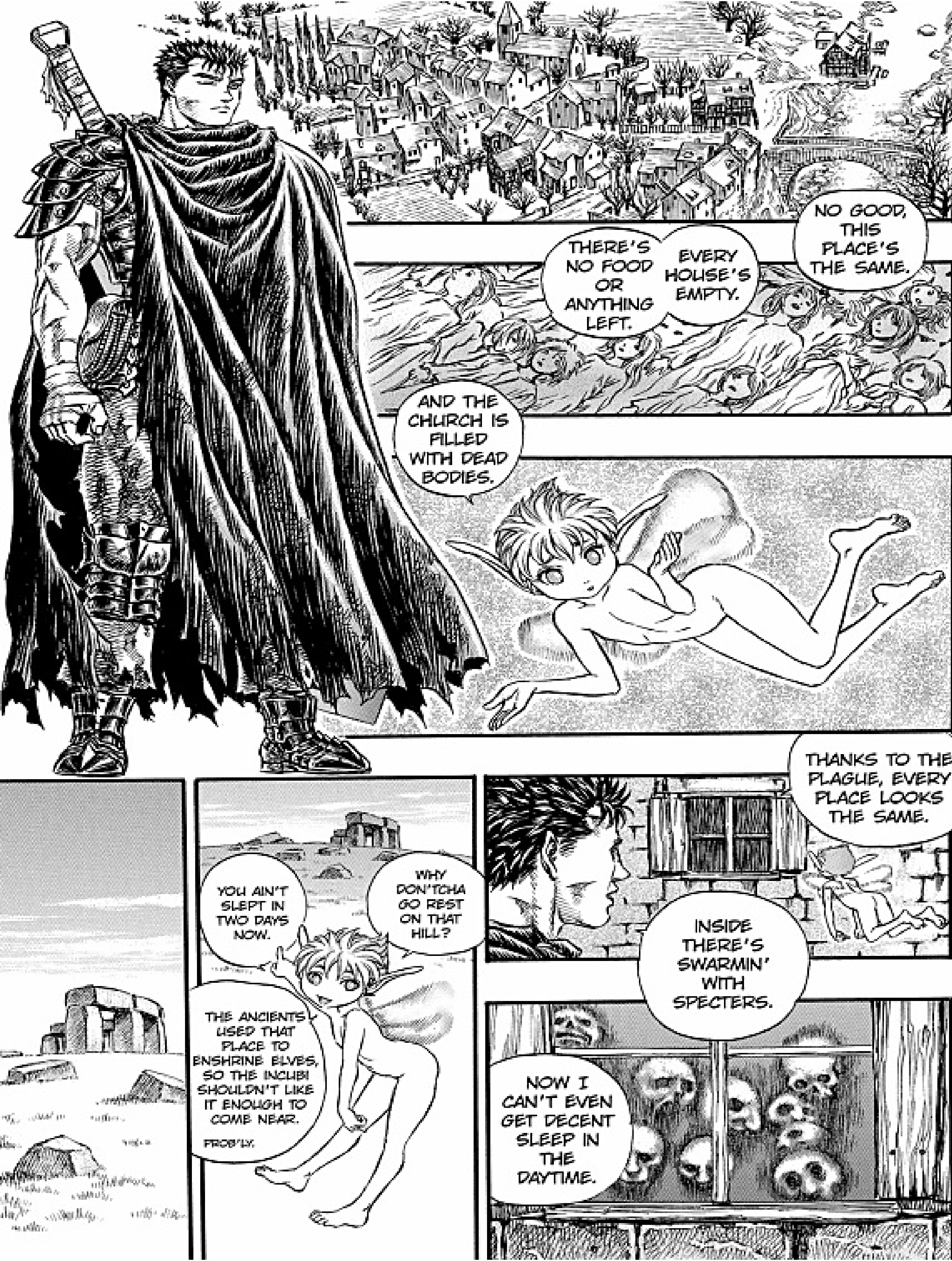
...ONE THING.
I SEEK ONLY...
DEFI-NITELY.
THE STRONG !!
*FX: GRAHHH
ONLY THE ABSOLUTE STRONGEST !!!

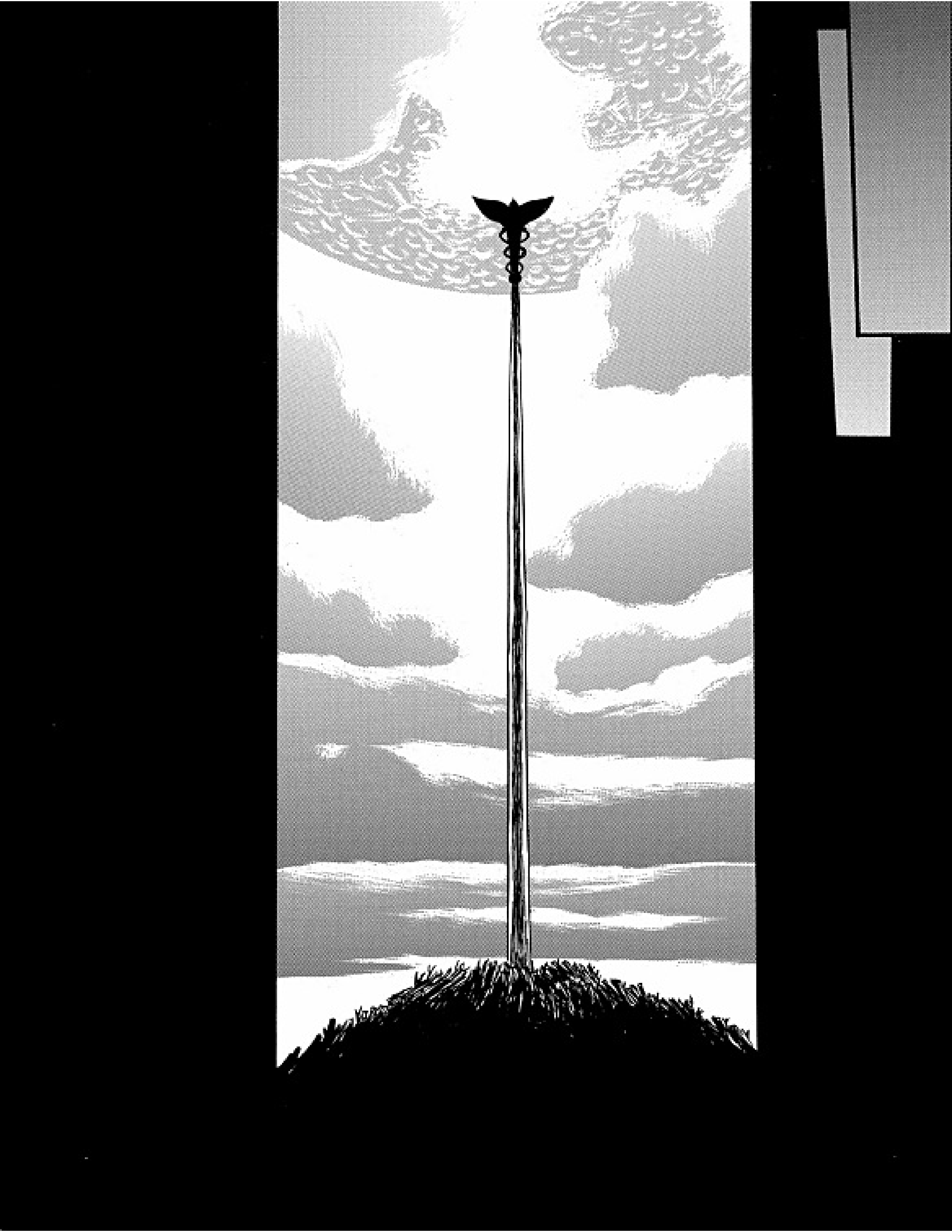

*FX: BWOOM

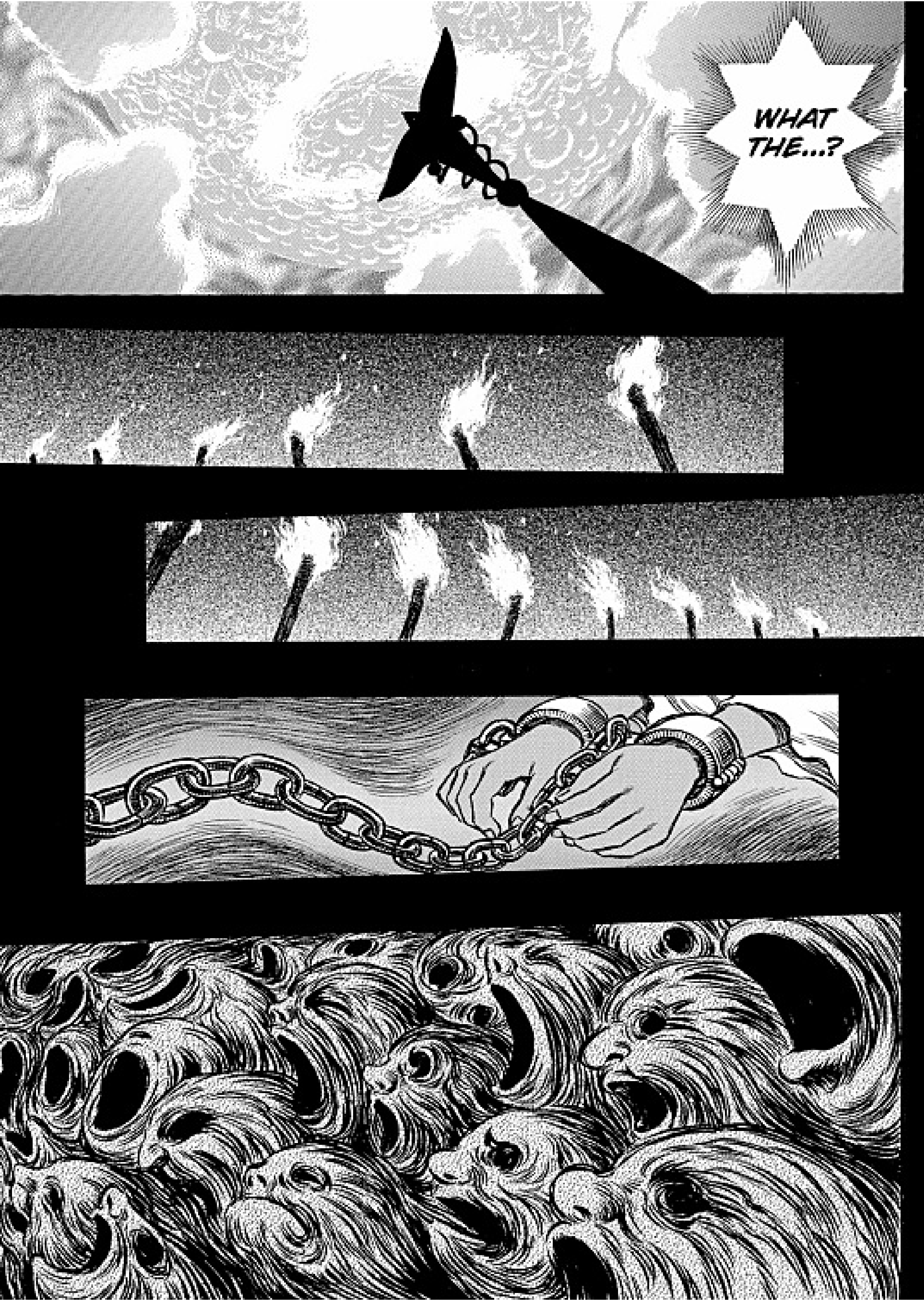



*FX: CAWWW CAWWW CAWWW
*FX: PULSE
... DREAM.
WAS THAT A DREAM THEN...?!
!
*FX: BLOP BLOP


WHEN THE SKY FALLS AT THE HOLY GROUND WHERE BLIND SHEEP GATHER AND ERECT A PILLAR OF FIRE...
...IT WILL COME.
THE DESIRED...
...WILL COME.

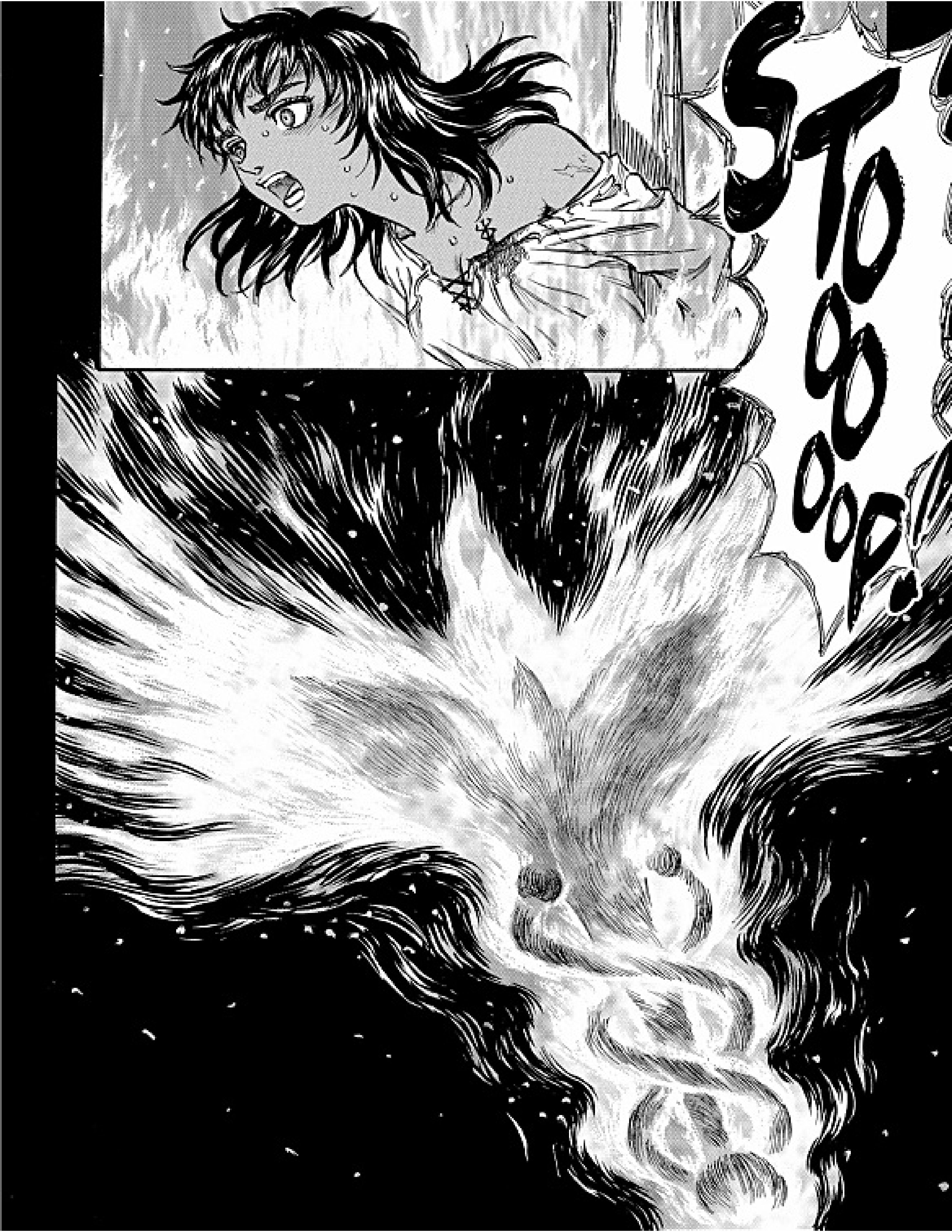

NO GOOD, THIS PLACE'S THE SAME.
EVERY HOUSE'S EMPTY.
THERE'S NO FOOD OR ANYTHING LEFT.
AND THE CHURCH IS FILLED WITH DEAD BODIES.
THANKS TO THE PLAGUE, EVERY PLACE LOOKS THE SAME.
INSIDE THERE'S SWARMIN' WITH SPECTERS.
NOW I CAN'T EVEN GET DECENT SLEEP IN THE DAYTIME.
WHY DON'TCHA GO REST ON THAT HILL?
YOU AIN'T SLEPT IN TWO DAYS NOW.
THE ANCIENTS USED THAT PLACE TO ENSHRINE ELVES, SO THE INCUBI SHOULDN'T LIKE IT ENOUGH TO COME NEAR.
PROB'LY.

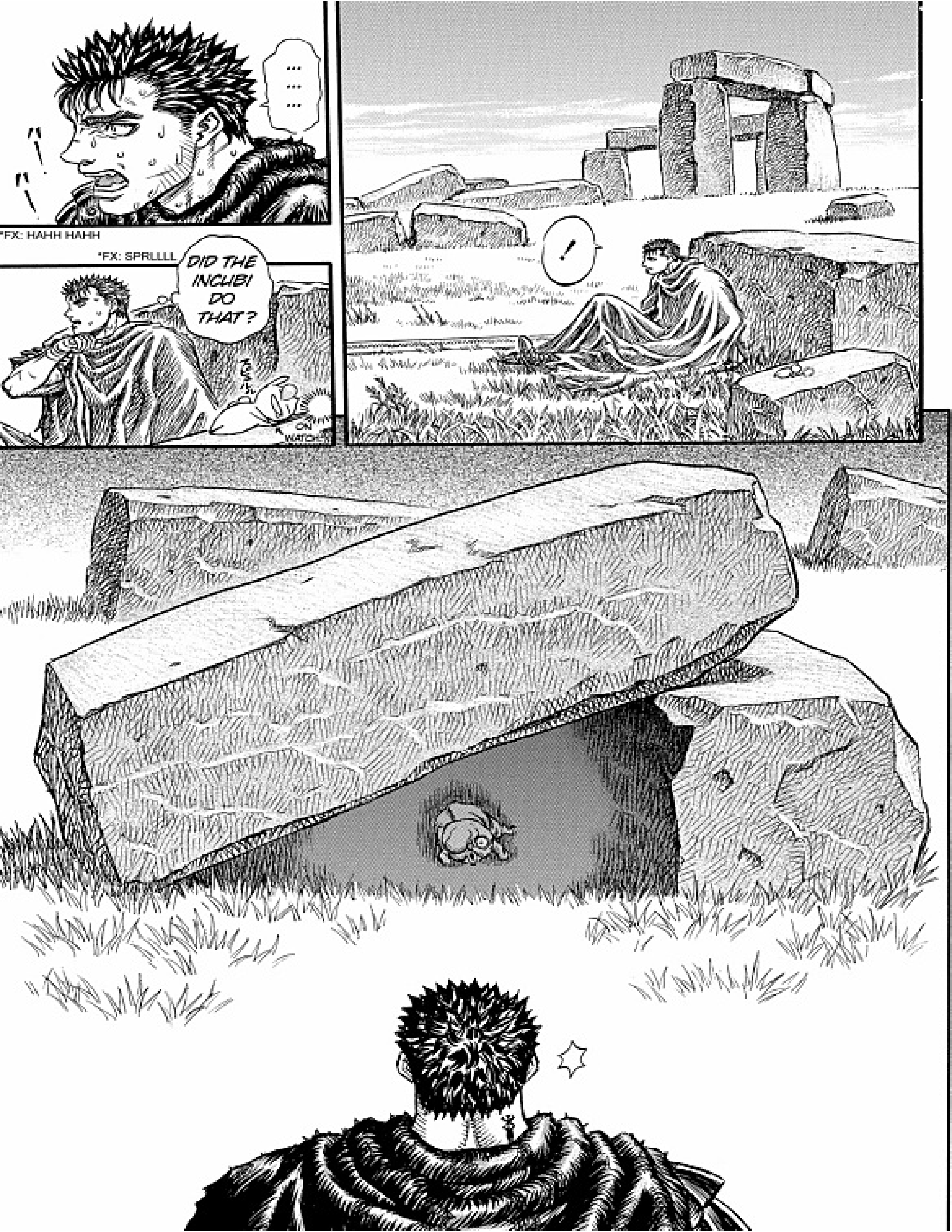



WHAT THE...?

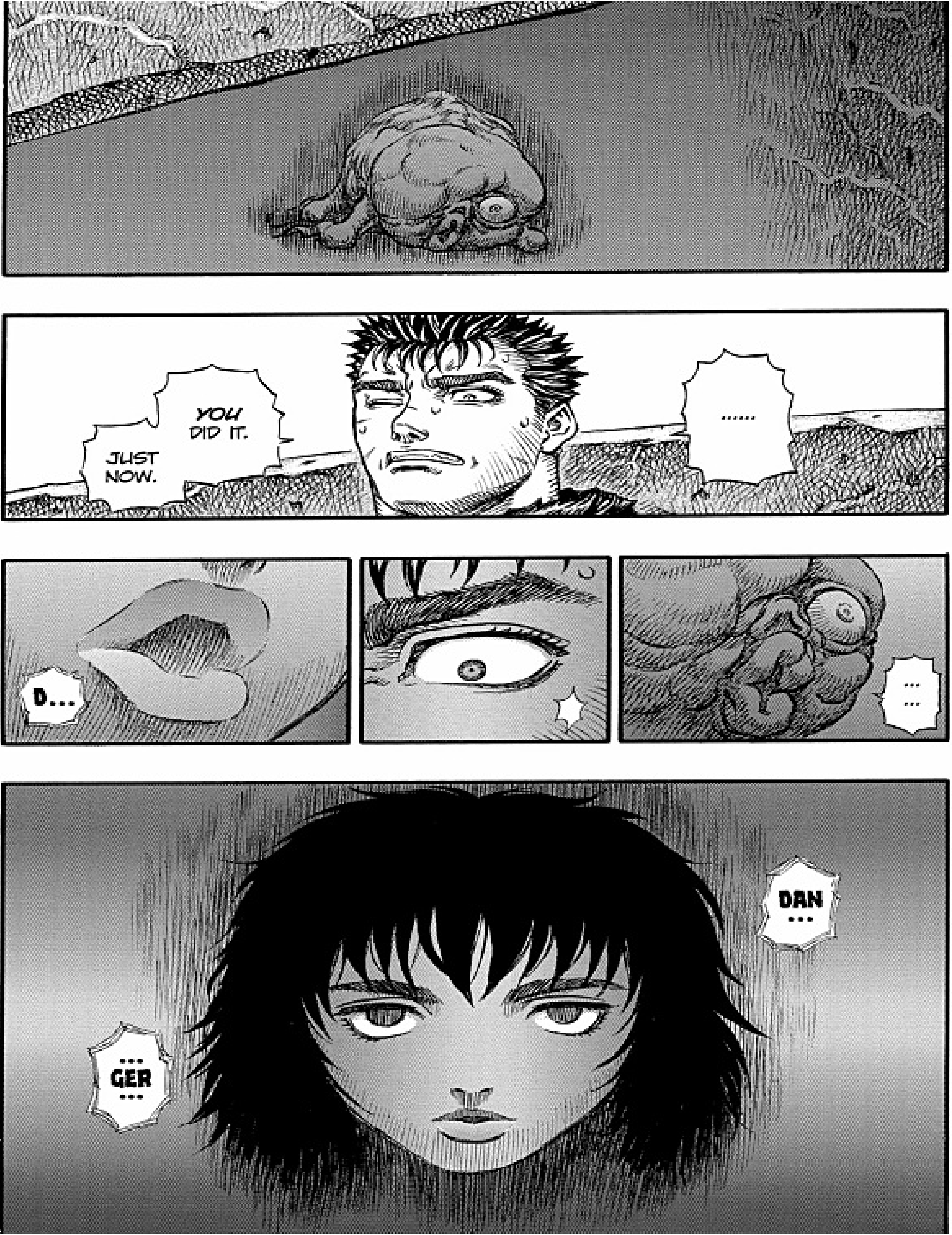



!
STOP!!!
STOP!!
STOP...


STOOOOOOP!!



....
*FX: HAHH HAHH
*FX: SPRLLLL
DID THE INCUBI DO THAT?
ON WATCH?
!


YOU DID IT.
JUST NOW.
......
D...
...
...
DAN
...
...
GER
...


WHAT'RE ...
...YOU TRYIN' TO PULL?!
DAN ...
GER ...
HURRY ...
WHEN THE SKY FALLS...
...AT THE HOLY GROUND ...
... BLIND SHEEP ...
... GATHER AND ...
... ERECT ...
...A PILLAR OF FIRE...
HURRY ...
QUICKLY ...


......
DANGER... ?
*FX: HNNN HNN
*FX: VMM VMM VMM
*FX: BATHUMP BATHUMP
......
HOLD ON.
NO!!
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN TO HER...?!
CONVICTION ARC
BIRTH CEREMONY CHAPTER
REVELATIONS 3: END


*FX: CHP CHP
*FX: CHMP
*FX: KLAT
断罪篇
生誕祭の章
刃(やいば)の亀裂
CONVICTION ARC
BIRTH CEREMONY CHAPTER
CRACKS IN THE BLADE


....
ハァァ…
*FX: HAHHHH
SNOW...
GENTLY FROM THE SKY ♪
SNOW FALLS ♪
SNOW FALLS ♪
*SPIN
*SPIN
*SPIN
*SPIN
SPIRIT OF WINTER ♪
*FX: SPIN SPIN SPIN
SPIRIT OF WINTER ♪

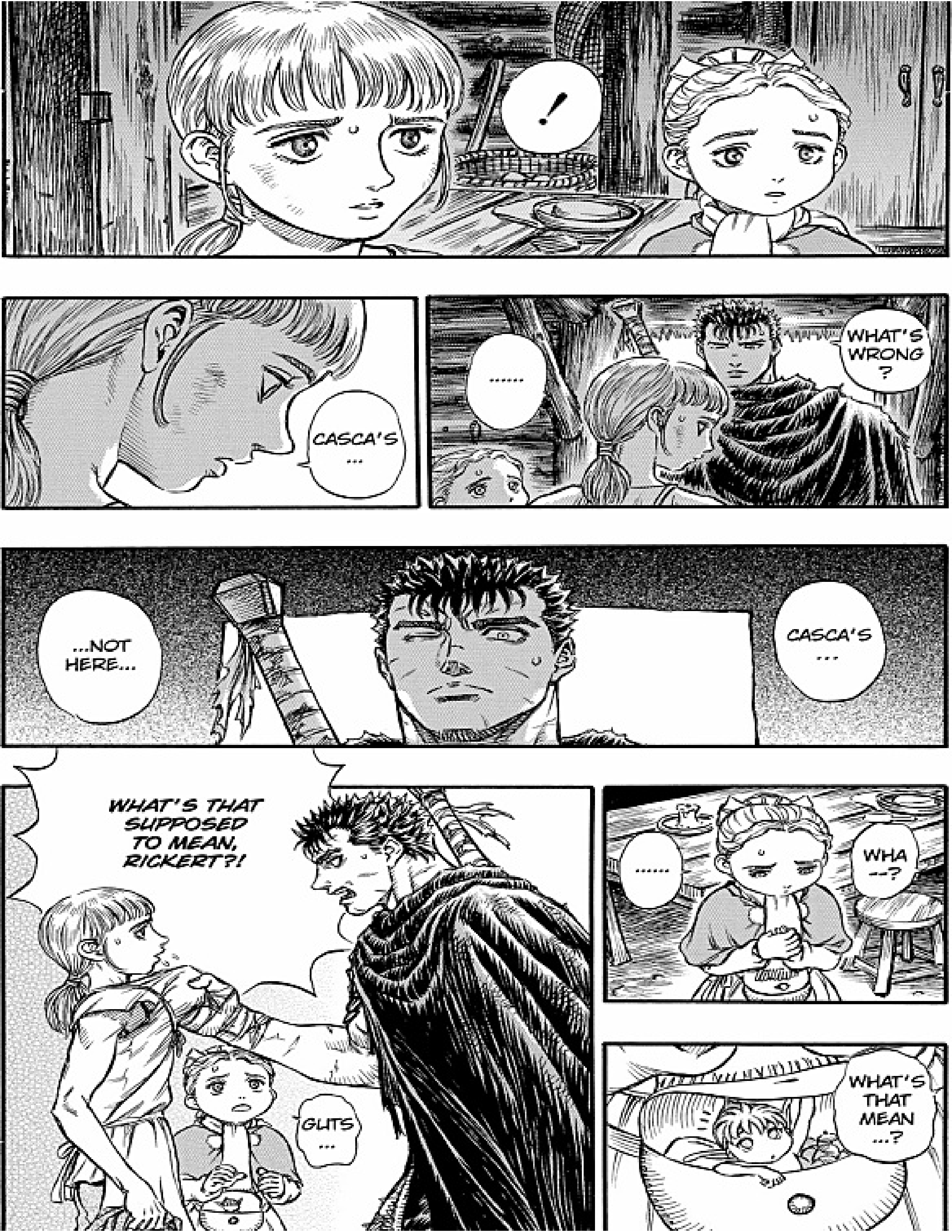

TRY TO CATCH IT, SEE HOW WON-DROUS ♪
IT DANCES LIGHTLY DOWN ♪
HEY! ♪
IT FALLS DOWN LIKE FLUFF ♪
ビッ
*SHWAP
クーッ
UWONK!!
*FX: TWITCH TWITCH BUBBLE
Y... YES!
I CAUGHT SOME-THING NEAT!
RICK-ERRRRT !!
......
BLOWING LOTS OF BUBBLES, SPIRIT OF WINTER... ♪
A CHESTNUT-HEAD GOBLIN...
*FLINCH


YO.
YOU GOT A BIT TALLER, DIDN'T YOU?
......


*FX: CLANNNG CLANNNG
*FX: CLANNNG CLANNNG
RICK-ERRRT!
WELCOME HOME, ERICA.
GOOD WORK, THANKS.
!



GUTS!!
YOU LOOK A LOT STRONGER.
DIDN'T RECOGNIZE YOU.
SORRY, RICKERT.
BEFORE THAT...
GUTS, YOU'RE ALIVE!!
NO WORD FROM YOU IN TWO YEARS...!!
WHERE IN THE WORLD AND WHY...?!
IS SHE...
IS CASCA SAFE?


!
CASCA'S ...
......
WHAT'S WRONG ?
CASCA'S ...
...NOT HERE...
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN, RICKERT?!
GUTS ...
......
WHA --?
WHAT'S THAT MEAN ...?


THAT'S HIM ...!
AWHA ?
......
UWAHHHN
WHERE THE HELL...?!
WHY NOT?! SINCE WHEN...?
IT'S MY FAULT!!
I DID IIIT!!
IT HAPPENED ABOUT A MONTH AGO...
......
ERICA ...
IT'S BECAUSE I WENT AND TOOK HER OUTSIDE ...!!


ERICA COULDN'T STAND SEEING IT, SO SHE TOOK HER ALONG TO GO PICK FRUIT...
CASCA HAD LIVED IN THE CAVE FOR SO LONG SHE WAS PRETTY SICK OF IT... LATELY SHE'D GOTTEN WHERE SHE WOULDN'T EVEN EAT MUCH.
I LOOKED FOR HER UNTIL THE SUN WENT DOWN, BUT I COULDN'T FIND HER...
BEFORE I KNEW IT, SHE WAS *GONE.*
......
BUT RICKERT ...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING *HERE?*
!
YOU KNOW FULL WELL HOW CASCA IS NOW!!
AND YET HERE YOU ARE...
WHY AREN'T YOU OUT *LOOKING* FOR HER?!
STUPID STUPID STUPIIID!!
STUPID GUTS!!
......
S...


WHAT ABOUT WHAT YOU DID?!
WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?!
AND THEN YOU WENT OFF SOMEWHERE FOR TWO YEARS!!
YOU WENT AND LEFT HER HERE...!!
YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW RICKERT FEELS!!
... RICKERT ...
BUT...
...CAME BACK TO US.
*SQUEEZE
HE WENT TO LOOK FOR HER AS MUCH AS HE COULD!!
HE DID GO LOOK FOR HER!! AGAIN AND AGAIN THIS PAST MONTH !!

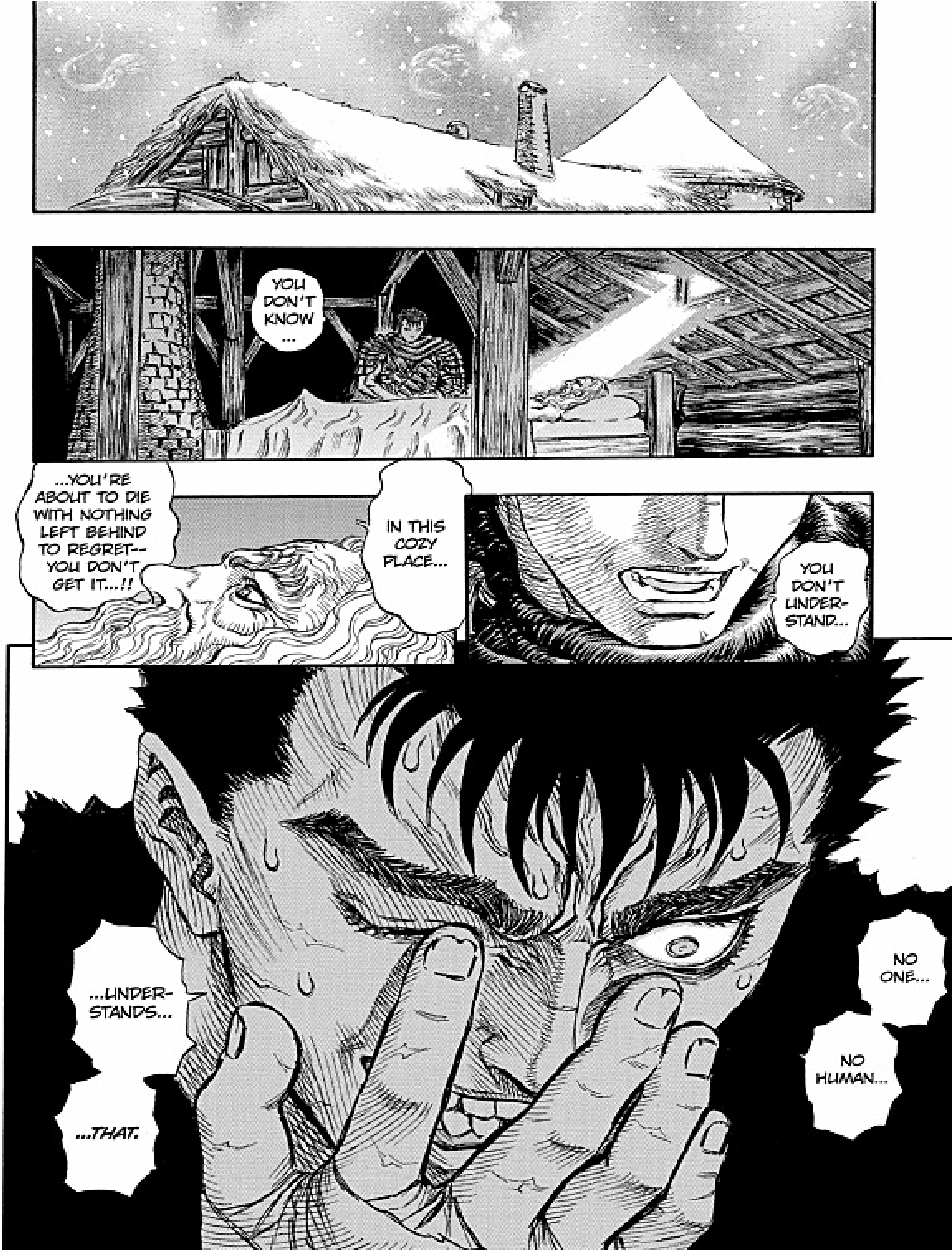

HE CAME...
...BACK HOME TO US.
....
*FX: SNFF
THERE'S A REASON I CAN'T LEAVE.
*FX: GREE
TOO MUCH NOISE.
I CAN'T EVEN SLEEP.


GODO...
WIPE THAT STUPID LOOK OFF YOUR FACE.
I HEAR YOU CAN'T THROW A ROCK WITH-OUT HITTIN' A DEAD BODY DOWN THERE.
SO WHAT'S SO WEIRD ABOUT SEEIN' A HALF-DEAD OLD MAN OR TWO?
PLAGUE ?
JUST WHEN I THOUGHT I'D HAVE A QUIET, PEACEFUL DEATH...
...THE NOISY IDIOT HAD TO COME BACK.
NOTHIN' SO SPECIAL AS ALL THAT. IT'S JUST OLD AGE, OLD AGE...
SO.
ENOUGH OF THE LONG-WINDED SPEECH.
LEMME SEE THE SWORD AND HAND.
WELL, YOU GET TO BE HERE AT MY DEATH. I GUESS GOD'S BEIN' NICE TO YOU.
......


ズシャ
ZSHAA
......
BLADE NICKS, BLOOD RUST, BENDS... SHOULDN'T BE THIS WAY EVEN AFTER TEN YEARS.
THIS'S GONNA TAKE MORE THAN JUST A LITTLE ELBOW GREASE.
YOU REALLY MAKE A BLACKSMITH CRY, Y'KNOW THAT?
I'M GUESSIN' YOU SWING AND SHOOT TOO OFTEN TO EAT OR SLEEP.
YOU CAN'T STAY SANE FOREVER, FIGHTIN' THAT WAY.
......


HEH, YOUR FACE LOOKS EVEN MORE...
...TENSE NOW THAN IT DID BEFORE.
....
SO IF YOU DIDN'T *HATE* THAT MUCH ...
...YOU WOULDN'T EVEN BE ABLE TO STAND UP, *HUH?*
TWO YEARS AGO...
...WHEN RICKERT ROLLED IN HERE WITH THE TWO OF YOU BUSTED UP...
...I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT WAS THAT HAPPENED TO YOU ALL.
AFTER-WARDS, WHEN THAT MONSTER CAME CALLIN' ...
...I GUESS I HAD SOME CLUE WHAT IT COULD'VE BEEN.
SO YOU'RE WAGIN' WAR AGAINST THINGS LIKE THAT. I CAN'T EVEN SAY FOR SURE IF THAT'S THE RIGHT THING TO DO.
...BUT WORSE, YOU DO IT FOR RETALIATION, FOR REVENGE.
LISTEN... WHY NOT RUN AWAY?
FROM WAR...
FROM HATRED.


...WHAT?
THE MORE YOU SHARPEN, THE MORE IT RUSTS, SO YOU SHARPEN IT AGAIN.
IN THE END ALL THAT'S LEFT IS A PILE OF RUST AND SCRAPS.
EVEN MORE THAN A BLOOD-RUSTED SWORD, VENGEANCE IS SOMETHIN' YOU SOAK AND SHARPEN IN BLOOD.
YOU SINK THE BLADE CALLED YOUR HEART DEEP INTO BLOOD IN ORDER TO FIX THE NICKS CALLED SORROW.
IT'S THE RAMBLINGS OF A DYING OLD MAN.
JUST LISTEN.
THE THING ABOUT HATRED...
IT'S THE PLACE WHERE PEOPLE WHO CAN'T LOOK SORROW IN THE EYE WITHOUT WAVERIN' RUN OFF TO.
DAMN CRACKS CALLED FEAR...
...RUNNIN' ALL THROUGH IT.
AH, C'MON.
IT AIN'T LIKE YOU TO LECTURE.
YOU TELLIN' ME TO BECOME A BLACK-SMITH OR SOME-THIN'?
I WOULDN'T BLAME YOU IF YOU WANTED TO.
YOU'VE GOT SOME HUGE NICKS IN YOUR HEART...



YOU DON'T KNOW ...
...YOU'RE ABOUT TO DIE WITH NOTHING LEFT BEHIND TO REGRET-- YOU DON'T GET IT...!!
IN THIS COZY PLACE...
YOU DON'T UNDER-STAND...
NO ONE...
NO HUMAN...
...UNDER-STANDS...
...THAT.


THEY DIED...!!
NO ONE WAS LEFT!!
NONE OF IT MADE ANY SENSE...
SUDDENLY...
UNFAIRLY ...!!
LIKE *BUGS!!*
WITHOUT... UNDERSTANDING *ANYTHING* ...!!
THEY WERE ...
...ALL YOUNG.
THEY COULD'VE DONE SOMETHING IF THEY'D LIVED...
BUT STILL ...
IN AN INSTANT ...
TO ME THEY WERE...
...IRRE-PLACEABLE.
YOU ABANDONED THOSE IRREPLACEABLE THINGS.
YOU WENT ALONE.
!
ON THAT DAY TWO YEARS AGO, IN YOUR HOPELESS SUFFERING, YOU LEFT THE LAST IRREPLACEABLE THINGS YOU HAD...
...AND WENT AWAY BY YOURSELF.


YOU WERE RIGHT BESIDE THOSE IRREPLACEABLE THINGS...
YET YOU COULDN'T BEAR TO IMMERSE YOURSELF TOGETHER IN SORROW WITH THEM...
SO INSTEAD...
...YOU RAN AWAY SO THAT YOUR *OWN* MALICE COULD BURN INSIDE YOU.
AM I *WRONG?*


DO YOU HAVE ANY PLACE TALKING ABOUT REVENGE FOR YOUR FRIENDS...
...WHEN YOU'RE THE ONE WHO WENT OFF, ABANDONING THAT GIRL HERE?
DO YOU HAVE ANY PLACE CRITICIZING RICKERT, WHO YOU LEFT HERE?
......
AT THE CRITICAL MOMENT...
...YOU GO AND CHOOSE YOURSELF...
...AND RELY ON FIGHTING.
YOU'RE LIKE A DRAWN SWORD ON THE BATTLEFIELD.
ONE WITH COUNTLESS NICKS, SOAKED IN BLOOD AND RUSTING.
...WITH A LETHAL CRACK IN IT.
A SWORD THAT'S BEGUN TO BREAK.

BERSERIK


HURRY! THIS WAY! THIS WAY!
SEE, THERE.
CONVICTION ARC
BIRTH CEREMONY CHAPTER
A FEEBLE FLAME
断罪篇
生誕祭の章
かよわき炎



WHAT'RE THESE...?
THEY'RE GRAVES.
WE DID THIS ALL THE TIME IN THE FIELD, DIDN'T WE?
AND IT'S NOT LIKE EVERYBODY'S UNDERNEATH HERE, BUT MAYBE IT'S SOME CONSOLATION...
IT'S NOWHERE NEAR THE RIGHT NUMBER, BUT I MADE THEM AS PRACTICE.
......
IN THE TIME I'VE GONE ON HATING, RICKERT'S DONE THIS...
TWO YEARS... PLENTY OF TIME FOR A PERSON TO CHANGE.
FUNERALS TO ACCEPT THE DEATH OF HIS COMRADES.
HE FOUND A NEW WAY TO LIVE...
...THROUGH THAT VIGOROUS STRENGTH OF HIS.

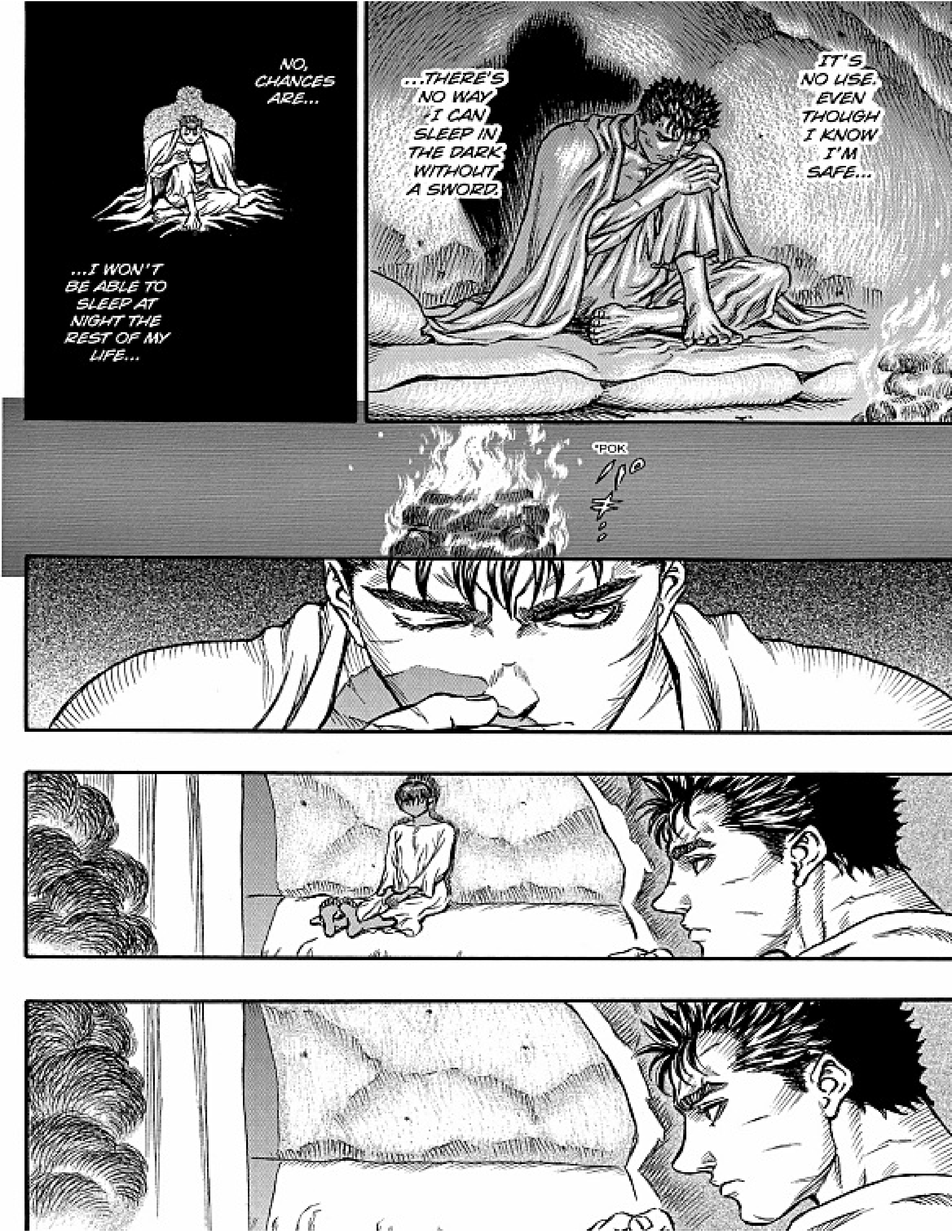


Y-YEAH, REALLY. THANKS TO YOU, BOTH GUTS AND CASCA NARROWLY ESCAPED DYING THEN.
I HAVE YOU TO THANK FOR THAT.
STILL THOUGH, I'M AMAZED. THAT THE BOY FROM BACK THEN WOULD TURN OUT TO BE GUTS' FRIEND.
WHAT A SHOCKER!
ALL LIES WITHIN THE CAUSAL CURRENT --
OR SOMETHIN' LIKE THAT?
*FX: SNUG SNUG
I GUESS IT'S LIKE WE'RE ALL TIED TOGETHER BY A RED THREAD OF DESTINY.
ME TOO, ME TOO!
NO, NOT RED.
*FX: HA HA HA HA
*FX: HA HA HA HA
BY THE WAY, YOU BEEN CURED'A YOUR FEAR'A ELVES YET?
AH... NO...NOT YET...
THEN LATER ON I'LL STAKE MY LIFE ON TREATIN' YOU!
AH...NO... DON'T BOTHER...



IT'S THE SAME AS IT WAS.
THIS IS *DEFINITELY* SOMEWHERE ELVES LIVED!
NO EVIL SPIRIT'S GONNA BE ABLE TO SNEAK IN HERE EASILY!
YEAH!
I KNOW THAT YOU'RE ANXIOUS ...
BUT REST WELL TONIGHT.
THERE'S A LOT TO TALK ABOUT, BUT FOR NOW WE'LL HURRY AND REPAIR YOUR SWORD AND HAND.
THEY LOOK PRETTY ABUSED, SO WE'LL GET THEM TO WHERE YOU CAN HEAD OUT SOON.


I GOT IMPATIENT TOO...
I'M THE ONE WHO'S SORRY...
BUT...
WHAT ABOUT ME?
YOU'LL BE CUDDLING WITH ME.
HUH?
RICKERT...
ABOUT EARLIER, UH...
NO, NO...
I'M SORRY...
...REALIZED SOME IMPORTANT THINGS...
HEY, WHAT AM I, A BABY-SITTER?
YOU GOT A PROBLEM?
I'VE...
BEING HERE...
...THESE TWO YEARS...
GOOD NIGHT.
GOOD NIGHT. SEE YA AGAIN, IF FATE DECREES.
ALRIGHT, THEN.
......


IT'S NO USE. EVEN THOUGH I KNOW I'M SAFE...
...THERE'S NO WAY I CAN SLEEP IN THE DARK WITHOUT A SWORD.
NO, CHANCES ARE...
...I WON'T BE ABLE TO SLEEP AT NIGHT THE REST OF MY LIFE...
*POK


"SO INSTEAD ..."
"...YOU RAN AWAY SO THAT YOUR OWN MALICE COULD BURN WITHIN YOU."
"YOU WERE RIGHT BESIDE THOSE IRREPLACE-ABLE THINGS..."
"YET YOU COULDN'T BEAR TO IMMERSE YOURSELF TOGETHER IN SORROW WITH THEM."
"YOU WENT ALONE."








HAHH
HAHH
*BATHUMP
*BATHUMP
*BATHUMP
I DIDN'T RUN AWAY...!!
I CAN'T RUN...!!
NOT FROM THE LAST THING...
...SEARED INTO MY RIGHT EYE...!!

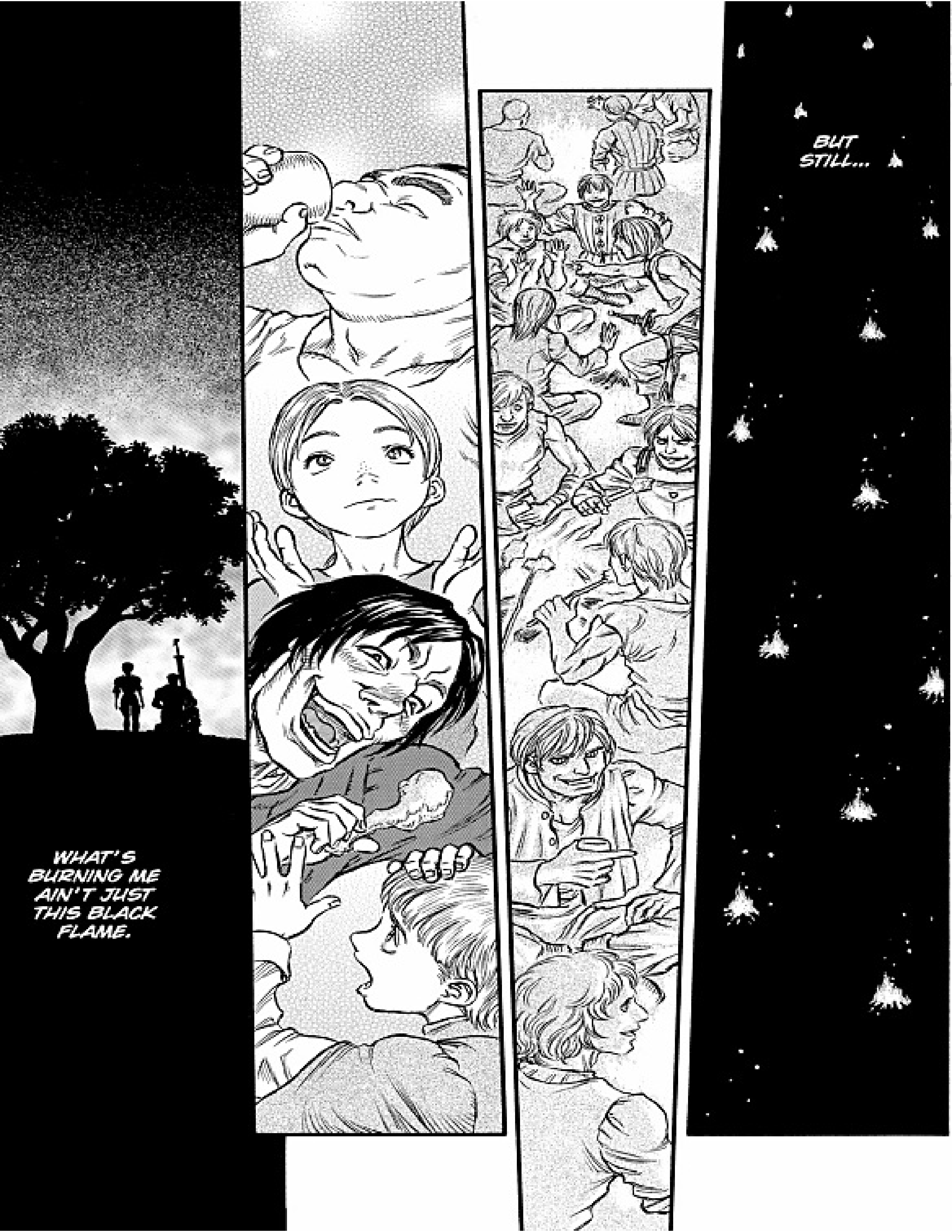

...FEAR ...MALICE. I DON'T KNOW... POSSIBLY IT'S BOTH...
BUT I CAN NEVER ATONE FOR THIS DARK FLAME!!!
IF I CAN'T ATONE, IF I CAN'T ESCAPE...
...ALL I CAN DO IS BURN MYSELF...
...AND MY ENEMIES WITH IT.
*HAHH HAHH
*HAH
*HAH
*HAH


THE BLOOD MUST FLOW.
SO KEEP KILLING.
IT WILL STILL THIRST.
FOR-EVER.
ALL ALONE.
AL-WAYS.
......
......
...MAYBE WHAT GODO SAID IS RIGHT, THOUGH.
WHAT CAN I SAY NOW WHEN I LEFT HER...
...IN A STATE LIKE THAT?!
I'VE GOT NO RIGHT TALKING ABOUT REVENGE FOR MY COMRADES WHEN I ABANDONED CASCA...
ABANDONED THE BAND OF THE HAWK ITSELF.


Y'MEAN FORMER RAIDERS CAPTAIN.
I DON'T KNOW IF IT WAS FOR SOME DREAM OR WHAT, BUT HE LEFT ON HIS OWN.
HE WASN'T HERE WHEN THINGS WERE AT THEIR WORST FOR US. THINK I CAN CALL SOMEONE LIKE THAT A COMRADE?
I WON'T RECOGNIZE IT.
YOU'VE ALREADY SEPARATED YOURSELF.
THERE'S NO OBLIGATION FOR YOU TO GO THAT FAR.
TAKE HER WITH YOU.
EVEN IF YOU HAVE TO DRAG HER THIS TIME.
...IF YOU DON'T ...
SHE...


YOU FIGHT...
...YOUR OWN BATTLES, RIGHT?
YOU HAVE TO GO.
EVEN IF IT'S ALONE...
YOU HAVE TO GO.


LONG AGO...
EVER SINCE THEN...
...I HAVEN'T HAD THAT RIGHT.
...THAT'S RIGHT.
I STARTED...
...THIS WAR MYSELF.
IT'S DEFINITELY DIFFERENT FROM WHAT I HAD WISHED FOR THEN.
BUT AT LEAST IT'S NOT LIKE ANYONE FORCED ME TO DO IT.
I DECLARED THIS WAR MYSELF.
BUT...


BUT STILL...
WHAT'S BURNING ME AIN'T JUST THIS BLACK FLAME.




THE CAMPFIRE FROM THOSE DAYS...
...STILL BURNS IN MY CHEST.


...THAT'S RIGHT.
...ALL THAT BARELY KEPT ME FROM BEING CONSUMED BY THE BLACK FLAME...?!
WASN'T THIS LAST FEEBLE FLAME LEFT TO ME...


......
...WHAT'VE I DONE?
DID I--
AGAIN.
DID I GO AND DO IT *AGAIN*...?
...AGAIN!!
YOU MEAN...
DID I LOSE SOME-THING...
...BEFORE I EVEN NOTICED IT *AGAIN*?!
...WITHOUT EVEN KNOWING!!
WITHOUT EVEN REALIZING I'D THROWN IT FROM THE PALM OF MY HAND...!!


WHEN THE SKY FALLS...
...AT THE HOLY GROUND...
BLIND SHEEP...
...GATHER AND...
...ERECT...
...A PILLAR OF FIRE...
NO...
NOT YET...
THE FLAME...
...BLOWN OUT...
IT'S NOT YET...
NOT YET!!
IT'S NOT TOO LATE!!
THIS TIME I SWEAR ...!!!


I'LL NEVER...
...LOSE HER AGAIN.

BERSERIK


断罪篇
生誕祭の章
聖地へ①
CONVICTION ARC
BIRTH CEREMONY CHAPTER
TO HOLY GROUND, PART 1
ハムハムハム
*FX: HNNNN
*FX: GNAW GNAW GNAW
*FX: CLANNG CLANNG
WHEWWW.
トントン
*TMP TMP


YOU SURE DO WORK HARD.
!
H-HI, WEREN'T YOU ASLEEP ?
WELL, I WAS.
BUT AT THAT RATE I WOULDA BEEN EATEN.
YOUR SHOULDERS'RE STIFF? MY ELF DUST DOES WONDERS.
UH... NO THANKS...
*FX: SSMP
*FX: STALK
CAN I HELP WITH ANYTHING? I DON'T LOOK IT, BUT I'M HANDY.
NO... I'M FINE.
...
*FX: FLINCH
*FX: STALK STALK STALK
...
...BUT PUCK.
I REALLY AM GRATEFUL FOR YOU.
HUH? FOR WHAT?


SINCE MASTER GODO FELL ILL... AND THEN SINCE CASCA WENT MISSING, ERICA HASN'T LAUGHED ONCE.
IT'S THANKS TO YOU THAT SHE HAD SO MUCH FUN TODAY.
*FX: NYAHAHA
NAHHHH.
NOT AT ALL.
WELL, KIDS ARE 'SPECIALLY GOOD AT ENJOYIN' THEM-SELVES.
WHEN GUTS RUSHED OUT OF HERE, I HAD THIS OMINOUSLY BAD FEELING.
THEN THERE'S GUTS.
EH?
OF COURSE, I WAS WORRIED ABOUT WHETHER HE WOULD SURVIVE AND I'D GET TO SEE HIM AGAIN...
BUT...
I ALSO...
...WORRIED ABOUT WHETHER HE'D NO LONGER BE THE GUTS I KNEW...


HE CAME BACK, THOUGH-- AND OF COURSE SOME SMALL THINGS HAD CHANGED...
BUT HE LOOKED FURIOUS AND GOT WORRIED ABOUT CASCA.
....
SO GUTS IS STILL GUTS.
THE WAY I USED TO KNOW HIM...
AND I THINK...
...YOU HAD MORE THAN A LITTLE TO DO WITH THAT.
I'M SURE...
THE REASON GUTS CAN STILL LAUGH...
...IS BECAUSE YOU'RE TOGETHER WITH HIM.
...
TEH E...
*PLAP
*PLAP
AWW, NOW I'M ALL EMBAR-RASSED!
YOU SAID IT WITH SUCH A STRAIGHT FACE!



ALRIGHT! I'LL POWER UP AND HELP, TOO!
I'VE GOT A BUILT-IN DRILL AND CUTTER.
DRILL?
*FX: SHWEEEE
THE BLACKSMITH'S ELF, NOT THE SHOEMAKER'S, *EH?*
!
EVERY DAMN TIME HE SHOWS UP, HE DRAGS SOME OTHER WEIRD THING IN WITH HIM.
MAS-TER?!
DRESSED LIKE THAT... WHAT'RE YOU *DOING?!*
THERE'S STUFF I'VE GOT TO DO, WHILE I'VE STILL GOT THE STRENGTH TO STAND.
S-STOP, THAT'S ABSURD!! LET *ME* DO--
SHAD-DUP!!
RIC-KERT.
ERICA'S YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.


!
ABOUT HER.
SHE AIN'T MY REAL DAUGHTER.
......
SHE'S AN ORPHAN WHO LOST HER FAMILY IN THE WAR. NOT THAT THAT'S RARE THESE DAYS...
BUT I HAPPENED TO PASS BY RIGHT WHEN SHE'D BEEN BURNED OUT OF HER HOUSE AND WAS CRYIN', SO ON A WHIM I BROUGHT HER HOME AND RAISED HER. IT WEREN'T LIKE ME AT ALL...
IT LET ME, WHO'D KNOWN NOTHIN' BUT STEEL SINCE THE DAY I WAS BORN...
...FEEL PRETTY, WELL, *HUMAN.*
BUT THEN ...
...MASTER...
SURE ENOUGH, WHEN IT'S TIME TO DIE...
IT'S GOOD TO FALL FORWARD ALONE.
*FX: BOFF
ボォ


A GOOD SWORD ...
...EVEN IF IT RUSTS AND DULLS...
...IF YOU RETURN IT TO THE FIRE...
...IT'S SURE TO BE *REBORN.*
*FX: CLATA CLATA CLATA
*FX: PUFF PUFF
EVEN IF IT CRACKS...
...HAS GOOD STEEL THAT NEVER RUSTS LEFT OVER IN THE WICK.
THAT STEEL'S THE ULTIMATE STEEL.
*FX: BWOOSH
TELL THIS TO THAT FOOL.
"DON'T TURN OUT LIKE ME."


コオオオーッ
*FX: KONNNG
*FX: FLAP
バサッ



*GCHAK
ガチャ..
HOW'S YOUR NEW ARMOR? THE MASTER HAD IT READY FOR WHEN YOU CAME BACK.
YEAH. IT'S LIGHTER THAN IT LOOKS, AND FEELS GOOD.
I'VE ALSO GOT THESE. NEW WEAPONS I INVENTED THAT USE GUNPOWDER, AND A NEW MODEL RE-PEATING BOWGUN.
EVEN IF YOU DON'T PUT 'EM ALL TOGETHER AT ONCE, YOU'LL GET THE HANG OF 'EM SOON ENOUGH.
*GSHUNK
WOW.
GOOD STUFF!


...BLIND SHEEP GATHER ...
AT THE HOLY GROUND ...
DO YOU HAPPEN TO KNOW OF ANYWHERE CALLED HOLY GROUND AROUND HERE?
OR ELSE, HOW TO SAY IT-- SOME PLACE WHERE SHEEP... SHEPHERDS ARE CROWDED TOGETHER...?
WELL, ABOUT THAT...
BY THE WAY, GUTS-- YOU SAY YOU'RE GOING TO LOOK FOR CASCA, BUT DO YOU KNOW HOW?
SEARCHING RANDOMLY COULD TAKE FOREVER ...
WAS THERE SOMEPLACE LIKE THAT?
HMMMM, GATHERING OF SHEPHERDS...
HOLY GROUND.
HOLY GROUND ...
COME TO THINK OF IT, IF YOU FOLLOW THE HIGH ROAD NORTHEAST FOR ABOUT THREE DAYS, THERE'S AN OLD MONASTERY CALLED ST. ALBION TEMPLE.
I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT IT'S REFERRED TO AS THE TOWER OF CONVICTION.
MAYBE THAT'S THE PLACE?
AND I DON'T KNOW ABOUT SHEPHERDS, BUT I HEAR RIGHT NOW THAT PLACE IS OVERFLOWING WITH REFUGEES FROM THE PLAGUE.
FROM WHAT I HEARD, HERETICS ARE MIXED IN WITH THE REFUGEES, AND AN INQUISITOR WILL BE DISPATCHED BY THE HOLY SEE BEFORE LONG.
THE TOWER OF CONVICTION ...

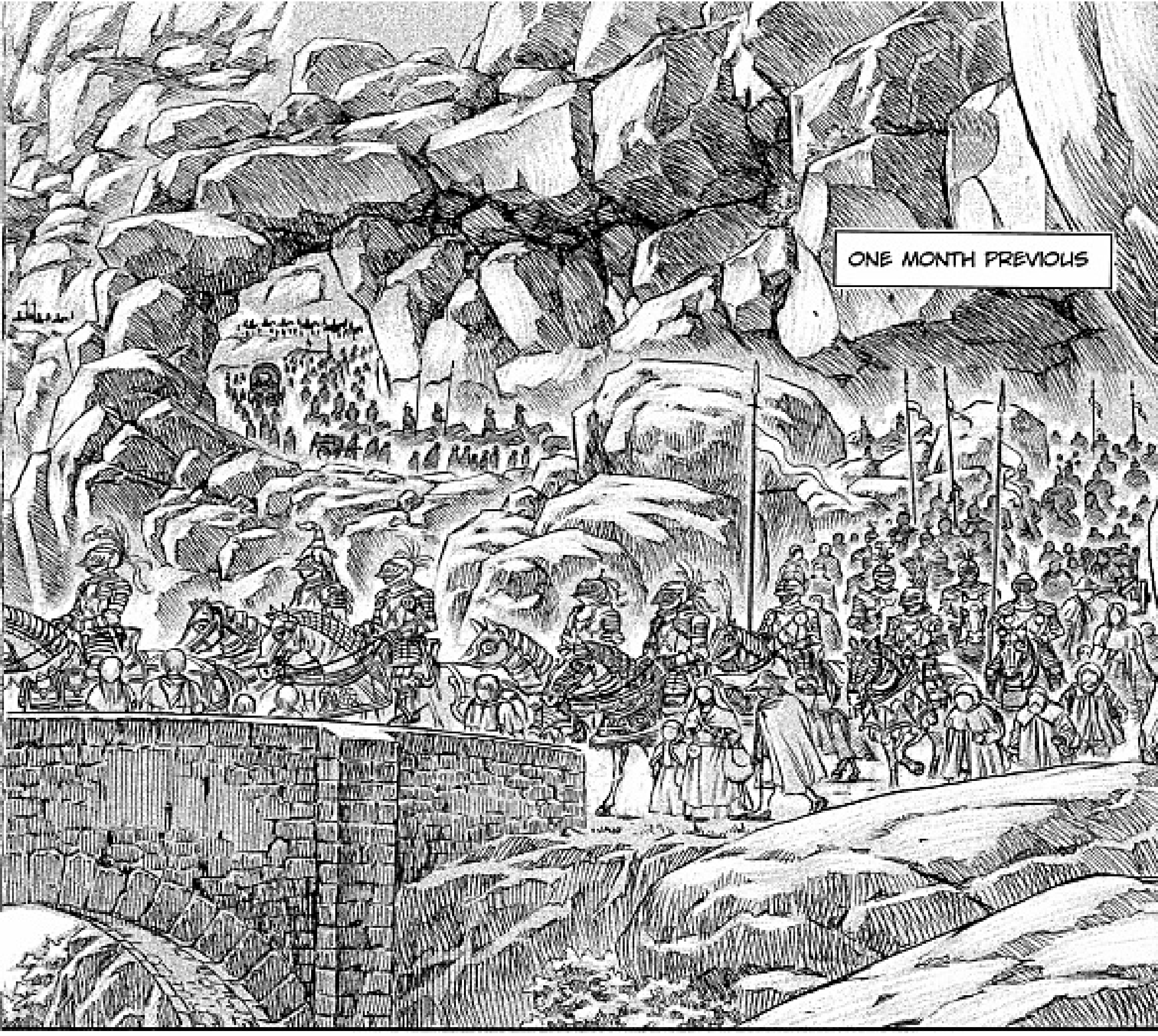

PUT SHORT ...
...IT'S GOING TO BE A WITCH TRIAL.
I THINK THE CHANCES OF CASCA BEING THERE ARE SLIM.
IN HER STATE I DON'T THINK SHE CAN MAKE IT THAT FAR AWAY... AND FIRST OF ALL THERE'S NO BASIS...
THERE IS A BASIS.
?
THERE'S A BASIS.
...IT'S GRASPING AT STRAWS...
...BUT FOR NOW I HAVE TO BELIEVE IT.
S'BE-YOND ME...
BUT A LOT'S HAP-PENED...
FOR HIM TO MAKE THIS FACE...
WHAT KINDA WOMAN'S THIS CASCA?



TAKE CARE... OF CASCA.
THEN BE SURE TO COME BACK HERE.
OKAY... I'M OFF.
GUTS.
GODO.
YOU'RE A GOOD BLACKSMITH.
I'LL COUNT ON YOU AGAIN ONCE I COME BACK.
DADDY, YOU'VE GOT TO GET SOME REST!
SO YOU SAY!
DAMN NEAR KILLED ME.
WORTHLESS FOOL.


*FX: WSHH
THAT'S HOW IT IS WITH THAT FOOL.
GEEZ.
OFF HE GOES WITHOUT EVEN A LOOK BACK.
HEH!
WELL, IT'S A LOT BETTER THAN GETTIN' ALL GLOOMY.
BUT YOU HAVEN'T EVEN GOT TIME TO STOP AND ACKNOWLEDGE IT.
THIS MIGHT BE OUR FINAL PARTING.
IT REALLY IS BEYOND OUR CONTROL...
HE TURNS AND STARTS RUNNING TOWARDS SOMETHING ONE WAY, WITHOUT NOTICING SOME OTHER THING, AND NICKS HIMSELF.
LIVING AND DYING.
BEYOND OUR CONTROL.


ザ ザ ザ ザ ザ

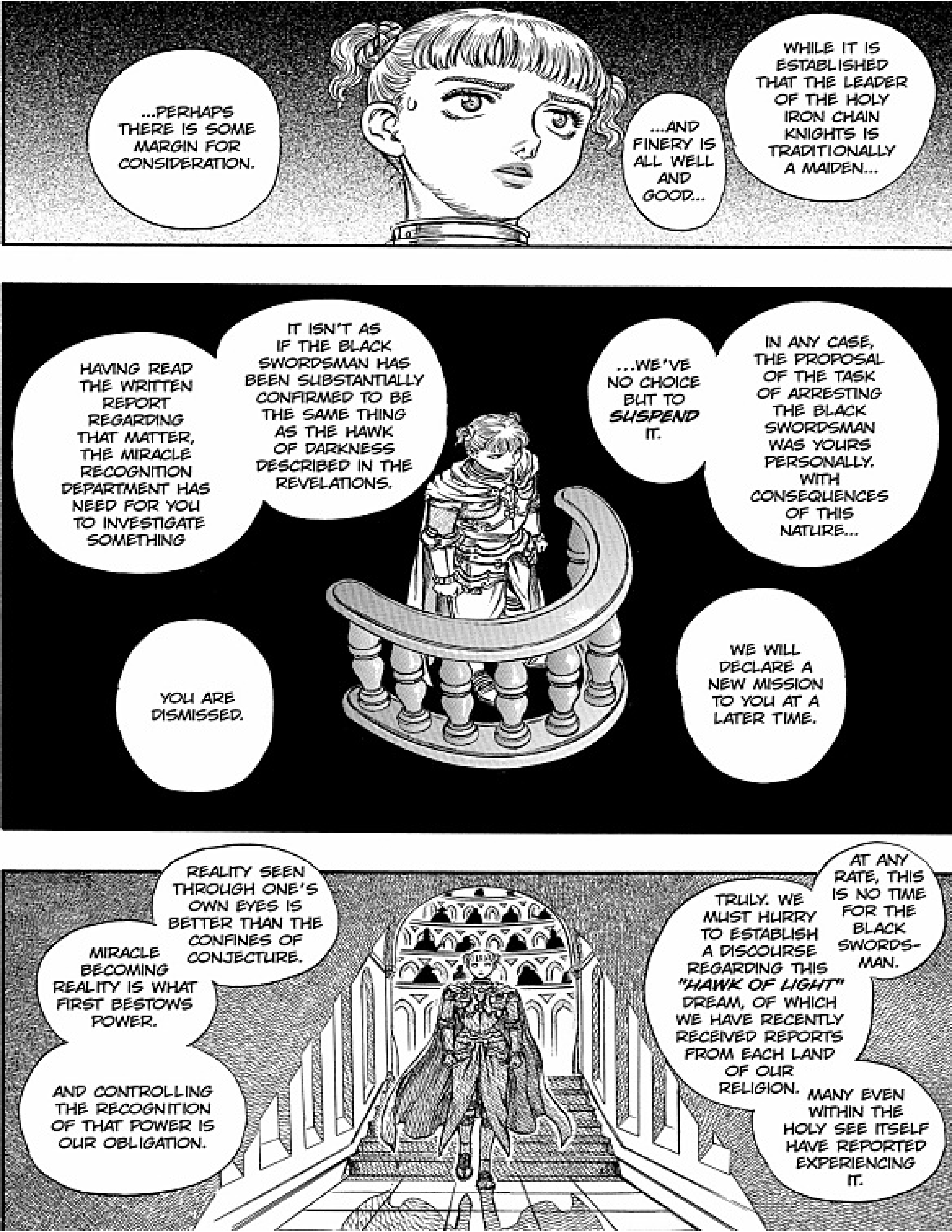


*FX: CLOP CLOP CLOP CLOP

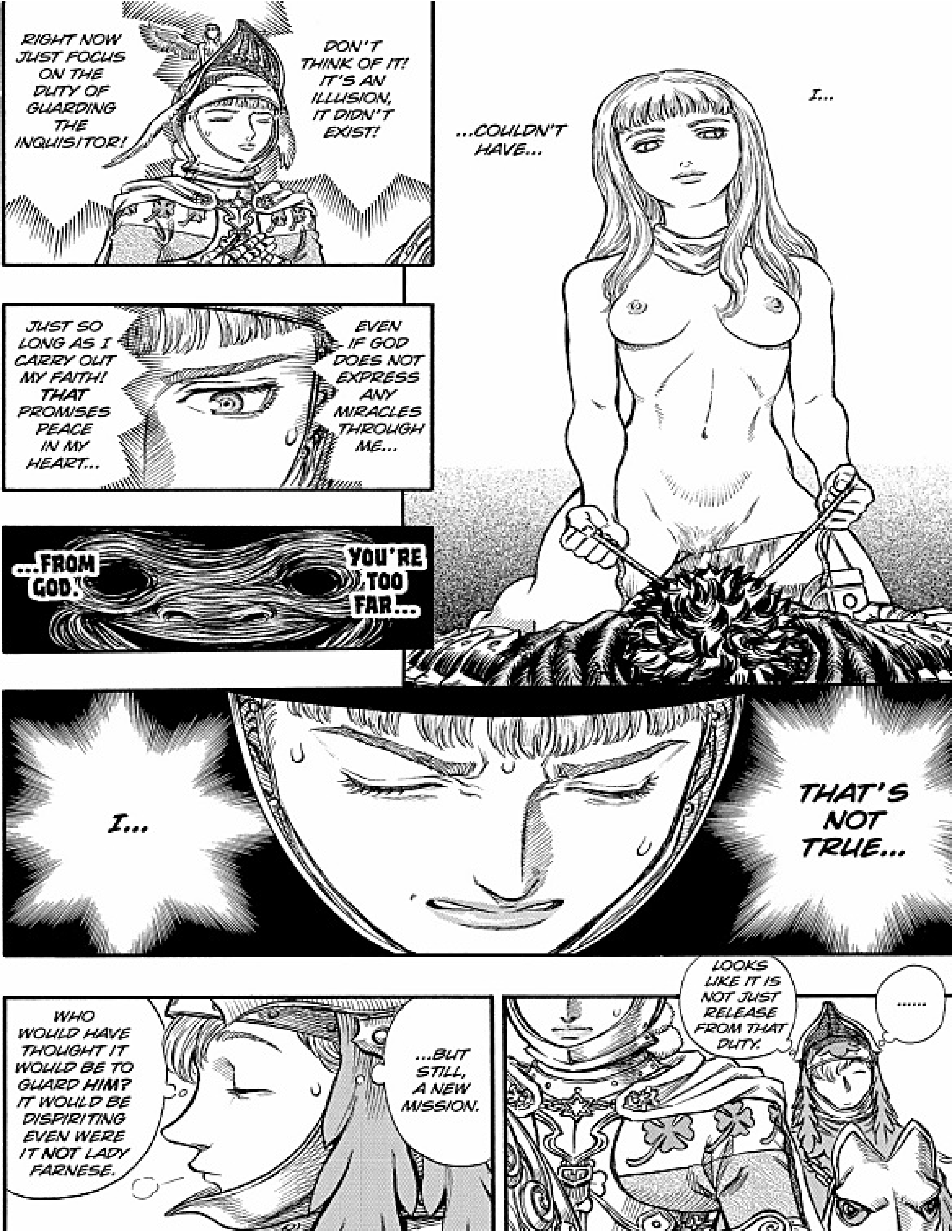


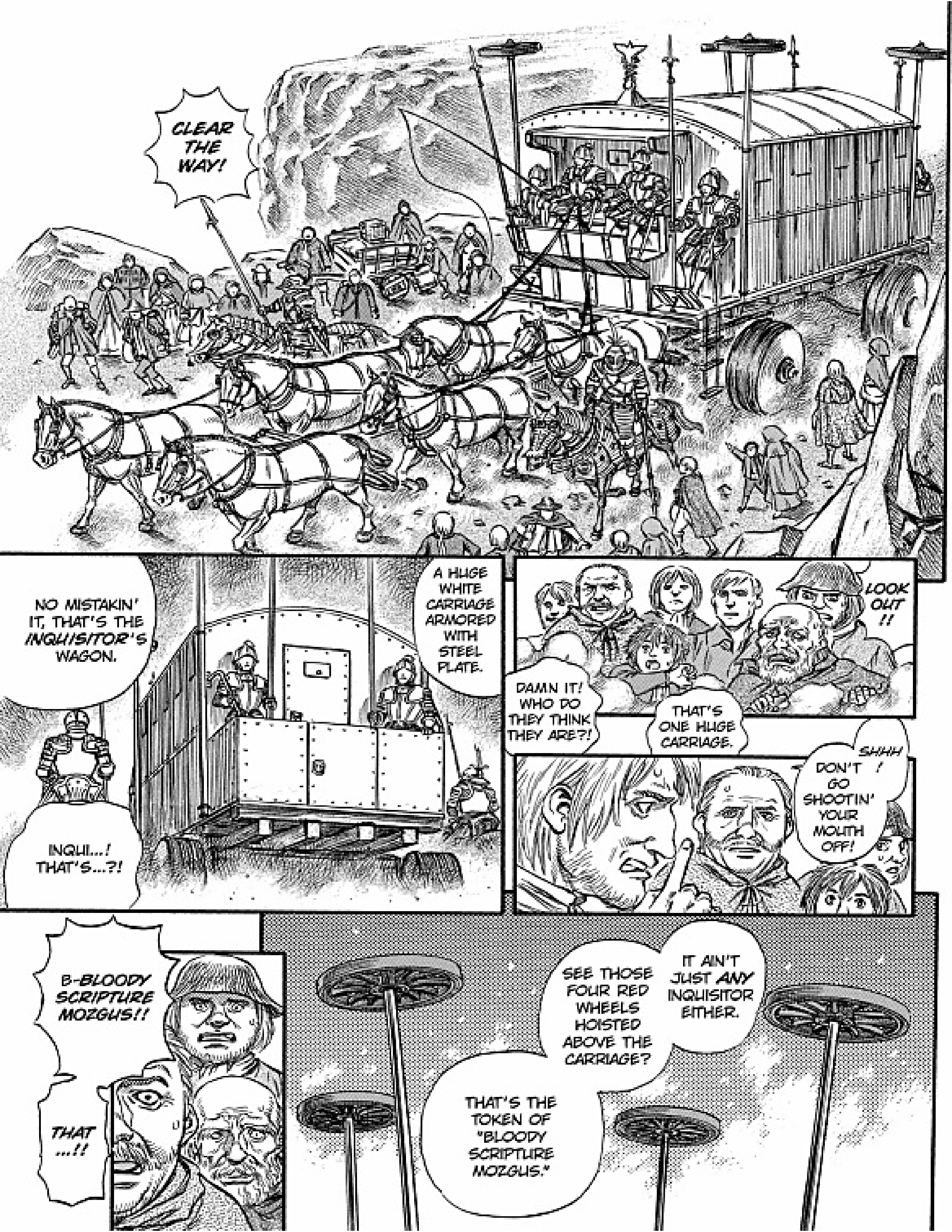

IT SEEMS IT'S NOT JUST PLAGUE AND FAMINE THAT PRODUCED THIS HUGE NUMBER OF REFUGEES.
THIS FEELS LIKE THE MIGRATION OF NATIONS.
AT PRESENT, IT'S UNCERTAIN WHETHER THE PROMINENT NOBLES IN THE ROYAL CITY, WINDHAM, OR EVEN THE NEXT QUEEN, PRINCESS CHARLOTTE, SEEMINGLY DEBILITATED BY GRIEF OVER THE KING'S DEATH, ARE ALIVE OR DEAD.
ACCORDING TO INFORMATION DELIVERED BY THE HOLY SEE A BIT AGO, SEVERAL DAYS PRIOR A LARGE KUSHAN MILITARY HOST FROM THE FAR EAST CROSSED THE MOUNTAIN RANGE AND INVADED MIDLAND.
BUT...IF THAT IS THE CASE, WOULD NOT IT MEAN BIG TROUBLE? THE ALBION MONASTERY WE ARE HEADED TOWARDS IS UNDER DIRECT CONTROL OF THE HOLY SEE, BUT NEVERTHELESS IT IS NEAR THE MIDLAND BORDER.
ARE NOT THE KUSHAN AN OLD ENEMY OF OUR RELIGION?
IS THIS THE TIME FOR SUCH A CAREFREE INQUISITION?
"CAREFREE" COMING FROM YOU...
THAT GOES TO SHOW... MISERY LOVES COMPANY.
IMPU-DENCE!
IF ANYTHING ABOUT THE SITUATION CHANGES, SUBSEQUENT REPORTS SHOULD ARRIVE FROM THE HOLY SEE.
UNTIL THEN WE MAY SIMPLY REMAIN SILENT AND UNDERTAKE THE MISSION GIVEN TO US.


JUST WHAT ON EARTH IS THE MEANING OF THIS?
LADY FARNESE IS IN A WORSE MOOD THAN USUAL.
......
DO YOU SUPPOSE IT IS BECAUSE SHE WAS RELIEVED OF THE DUTY OF ARRESTING THE BLACK SWORDSMAN?
AFTER SPENDING TWO WHOLE YEARS ...
...YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO HAVE CAPTURED THE BLACK SWORDSMAN, YET YOU LET HIM SLIP AWAY.
WHAT'S MORE, YOU SUFFERED CASUALTIES ATTEMPTING TO CAPTURE BUT ONE MAN.
AND NOT JUST ONE OR TWO LOSSES.
YES, BUT--
MY HOLY IRON CHAIN KNIGHTS ARE IN A FASHION YET AN ARMY!
SOMETIMES THERE CAN BE LOSSES IN BATTLE...
YOU DON'T SEEM TO UNDERSTAND.
THE HOLY IRON CHAIN KNIGHTS ARE DIFFERENT FROM ORDINARY HEATHEN FORCES.
THEY ARE A SYMBOL OF THE AUTHORITY, SO TO SPEAK...OF THE HOLY SEE, GOD'S EARTHLY MOUTHPIECE.
NO...
THEN YOU MEAN WE ARE JUST AN ORNAMENTATION...
MIND YOUR TONGUE!
WHAT INSOLENCE!
WE MEAN ITS EXISTENCE IS HIGHLY CEREMONIAL.
I WONDER IF YOU REALIZE WHAT TYPE OF MARTYRS THEY WERE WHO DIED ON YOUR LAST MISSION.
NEARLY ALL SONS OF HIGH NOBLES FROM SEVERAL COUNTRIES!
FORTUNATELY, YOU YOURSELF ARE OF THE WORLD-REKNOWNED VANDIMION FAMILY, WHICH BOASTS OF GREAT FORTUNES.
BASED ON YOUR FATHER'S GOOD WORD, WE WERE SOMEHOW ABLE TO SETTLE THE MATTER AMICABLY...
BUT THERE WERE NO SMALL NUMBER WHO STATED THAT THEY WERE THROUGH GIVING DONATIONS TO THE HOLY SEE.

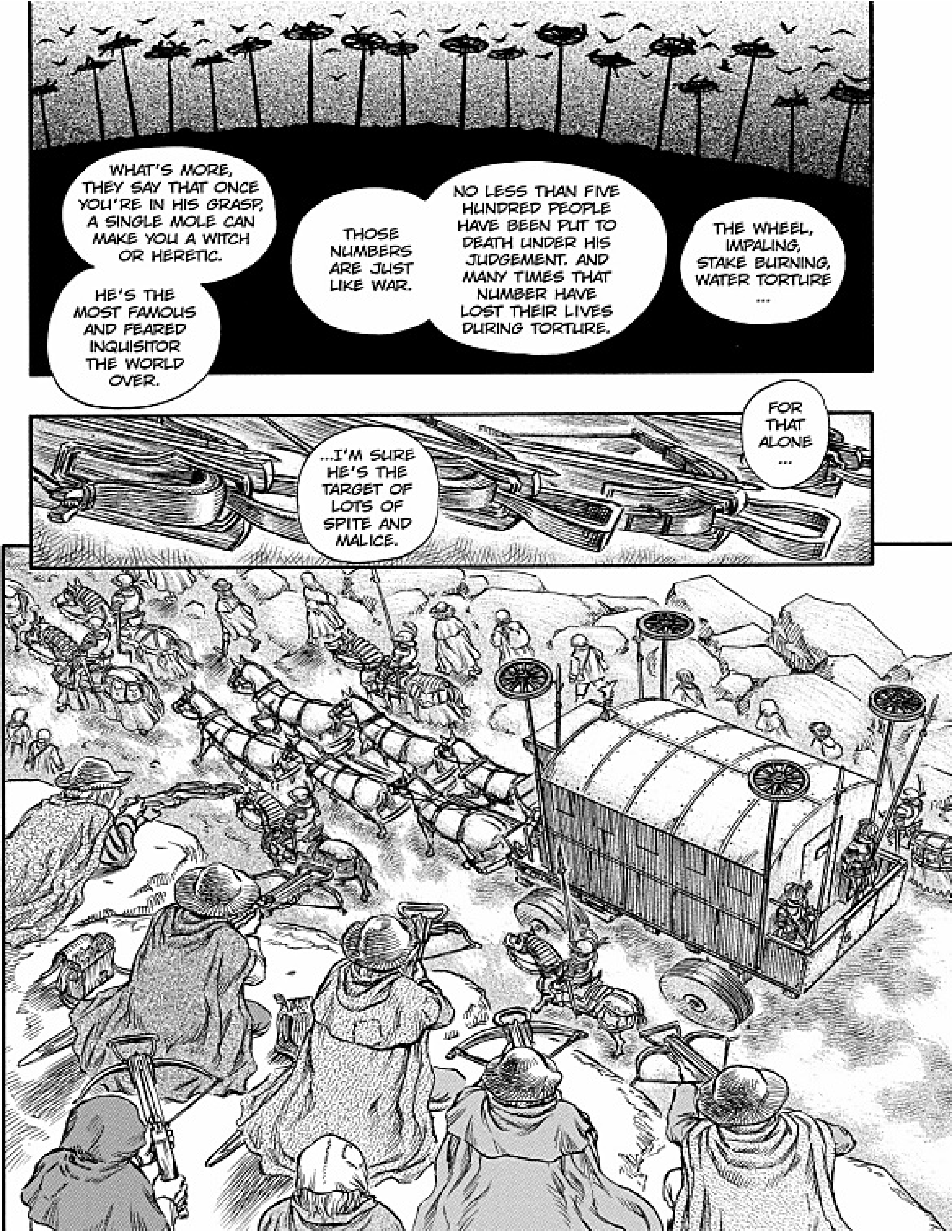

WHILE IT IS ESTABLISHED THAT THE LEADER OF THE HOLY IRON CHAIN KNIGHTS IS TRADITIONALLY A MAIDEN...
...AND FINERY IS ALL WELL AND GOOD...
...PERHAPS THERE IS SOME MARGIN FOR CONSIDERATION.
IN ANY CASE, THE PROPOSAL OF THE TASK OF ARRESTING THE BLACK SWORDSMAN WAS YOURS PERSONALLY. WITH CONSEQUENCES OF THIS NATURE...
...WE'VE NO CHOICE BUT TO *SUSPEND* IT.
IT ISN'T AS IF THE BLACK SWORDSMAN HAS BEEN SUBSTANTIALLY CONFIRMED TO BE THE SAME THING AS THE HAWK OF DARKNESS DESCRIBED IN THE REVELATIONS.
HAVING READ THE WRITTEN REPORT REGARDING THAT MATTER, THE MIRACLE RECOGNITION DEPARTMENT HAS NEED FOR YOU TO INVESTIGATE SOMETHING
WE WILL DECLARE A NEW MISSION TO YOU AT A LATER TIME.
YOU ARE DISMISSED.
AT ANY RATE, THIS IS NO TIME FOR THE BLACK SWORDS-MAN.
TRULY. WE MUST HURRY TO ESTABLISH A DISCOURSE REGARDING THIS *"HAWK OF LIGHT"* DREAM, OF WHICH WE HAVE RECENTLY RECEIVED REPORTS FROM EACH LAND OF OUR RELIGION.
MANY EVEN WITHIN THE HOLY SEE ITSELF HAVE REPORTED EXPERIENCING IT.
REALITY SEEN THROUGH ONE'S OWN EYES IS BETTER THAN THE CONFINES OF CONJECTURE.
MIRACLE BECOMING REALITY IS WHAT FIRST BESTOWS POWER.
AND CONTROLLING THE RECOGNITION OF THAT POWER IS OUR OBLIGATION.


MIRACLES, THE HAWK OF LIGHT...
I'VE SEEN NO SUCH THING...
MIRACLES...
*GRHRHRN
*FLINCH
IS SOMETHING WRONG?
IT'S N-NOTHING!
D-DON'T THINK OF IT!!
THERE'S NO WAY THAT WAS REALITY...!!


RIGHT NOW JUST FOCUS ON THE DUTY OF GUARDING THE INQUISITOR!
DON'T THINK OF IT! IT'S AN ILLUSION, IT DIDN'T EXIST!
...COULDN'T HAVE...
I...
JUST SO LONG AS I CARRY OUT MY FAITH! THAT PROMISES PEACE IN MY HEART...
EVEN IF GOD DOES NOT EXPRESS ANY MIRACLES THROUGH ME...
...FROM GOD."
YOU'RE TOO FAR...
I...
THAT'S NOT TRUE...
WHO WOULD HAVE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE TO GUARD HIM? IT WOULD BE DISPIRITING EVEN WERE IT NOT LADY FARNESE.
...BUT STILL, A NEW MISSION.
LOOKS LIKE IT IS NOT JUST RELEASE FROM THAT DUTY.
......



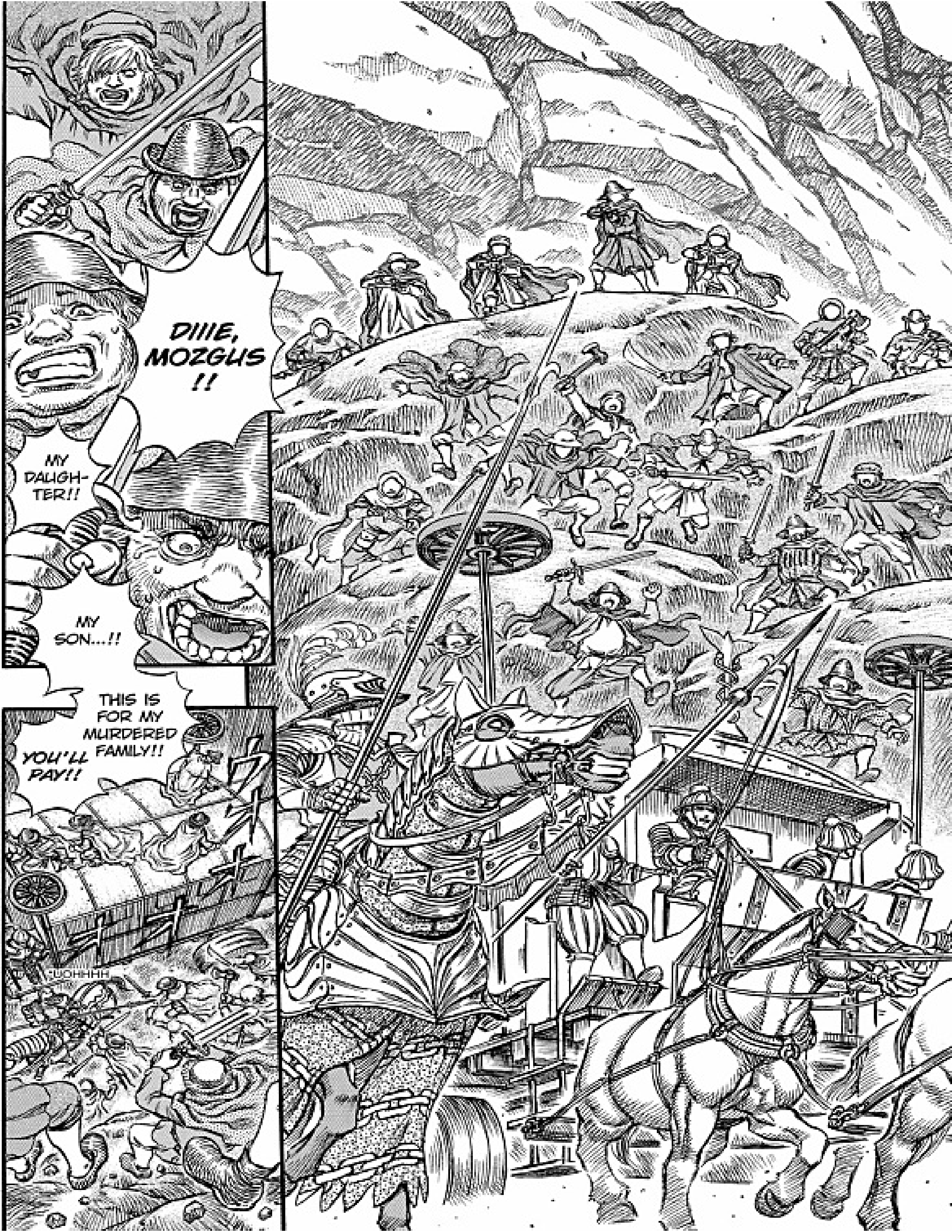
CLEAR THE WAY!
NO MISTAKIN' IT, THAT'S THE INQUISITOR'S WAGON.
A HUGE WHITE CARRIAGE ARMORED WITH STEEL PLATE.
INQUI...! THAT'S...?!
LOOK OUT !!
DAMN IT! WHO DO THEY THINK THEY ARE?!
THAT'S ONE HUGE CARRIAGE.
SHHH !
DON'T GO SHOOTIN' YOUR MOUTH OFF!
B-BLOODY SCRIPTURE MOZGUS!!
THAT ...!!
IT AIN'T JUST ANY INQUISITOR EITHER.
SEE THOSE FOUR RED WHEELS HOISTED ABOVE THE CARRIAGE?
THAT'S THE TOKEN OF "BLOODY SCRIPTURE MOZGUS."


WHAT'S MORE, THEY SAY THAT ONCE YOU'RE IN HIS GRASP, A SINGLE MOLE CAN MAKE YOU A WITCH OR HERETIC.
HE'S THE MOST FAMOUS AND FEARED INQUISITOR THE WORLD OVER.
THOSE NUMBERS ARE JUST LIKE WAR.
NO LESS THAN FIVE HUNDRED PEOPLE HAVE BEEN PUT TO DEATH UNDER HIS JUDGEMENT. AND MANY TIMES THAT NUMBER HAVE LOST THEIR LIVES DURING TORTURE.
THE WHEEL, IMPALING, STAKE BURNING, WATER TORTURE ...
FOR THAT ALONE ...
...I'M SURE HE'S THE TARGET OF LOTS OF SPITE AND MALICE.

断罪篇　生誕祭の章　聖地へ②

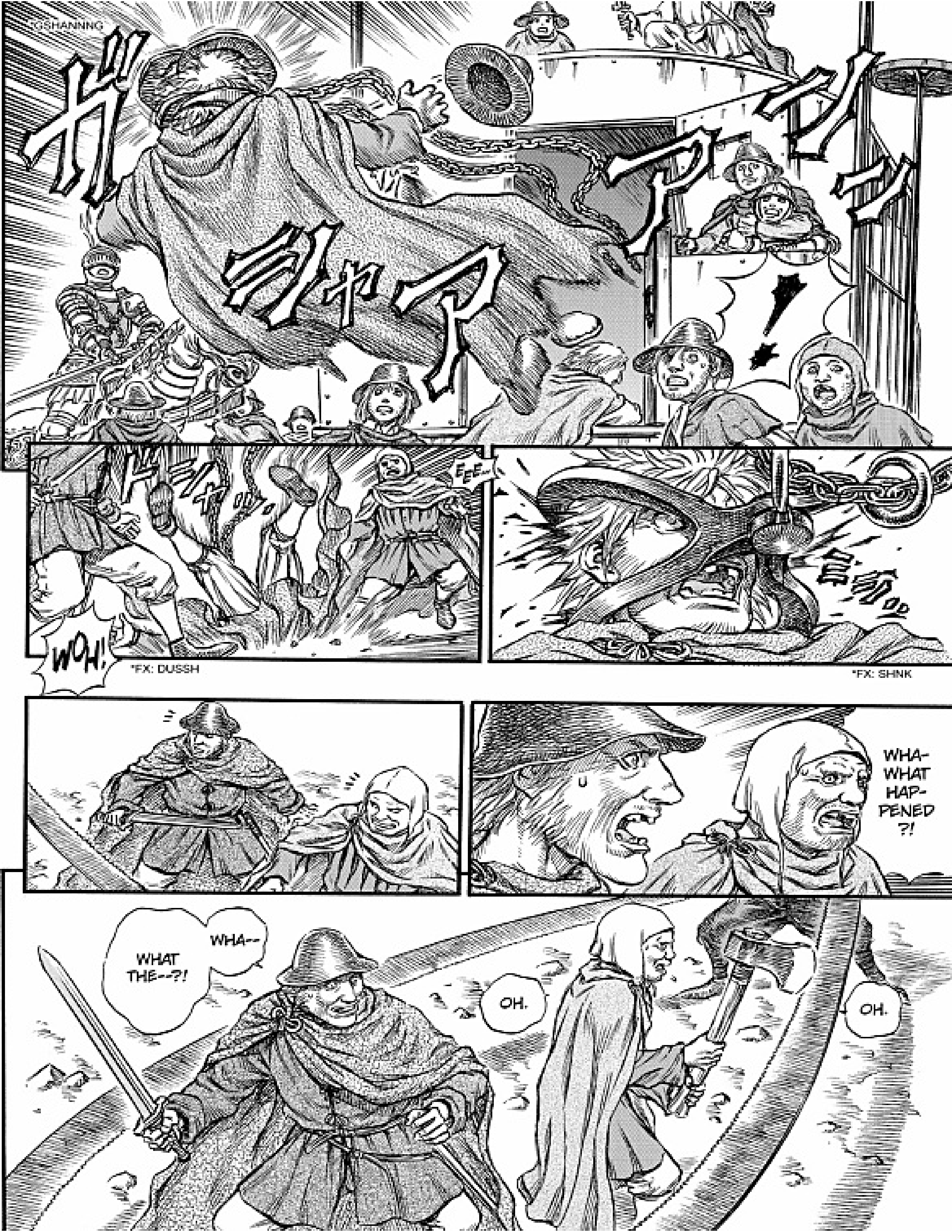
CONVICTION ARC
BIRTH CEREMONY CHAPTER
TO HOLY GROUND, PART 2





DIIIE, MOZGUS !!
MY DAUGH-TER!!
MY SON...!!
THIS IS FOR MY MURDERED FAMILY!!
YOU'LL PAY!!
UOHHHH


*RAHHHHHH
THEY'VE BROKEN THROUGH OUR FLANK!!
THE REFUGEES BAR US FROM APPROACHING!!
*FX: OHHHHHH
*FX: THUD THUMP
*FX: BTAM
GET OUT HERE!!
MOZ-GUS!!


GSHANNNG
EEE...
WOH!
*FX: DUSSH
*FX: SHNK
WHA-WHAT HAPPENED?!
WHA--
WHAT THE--?!
OH.
OH.

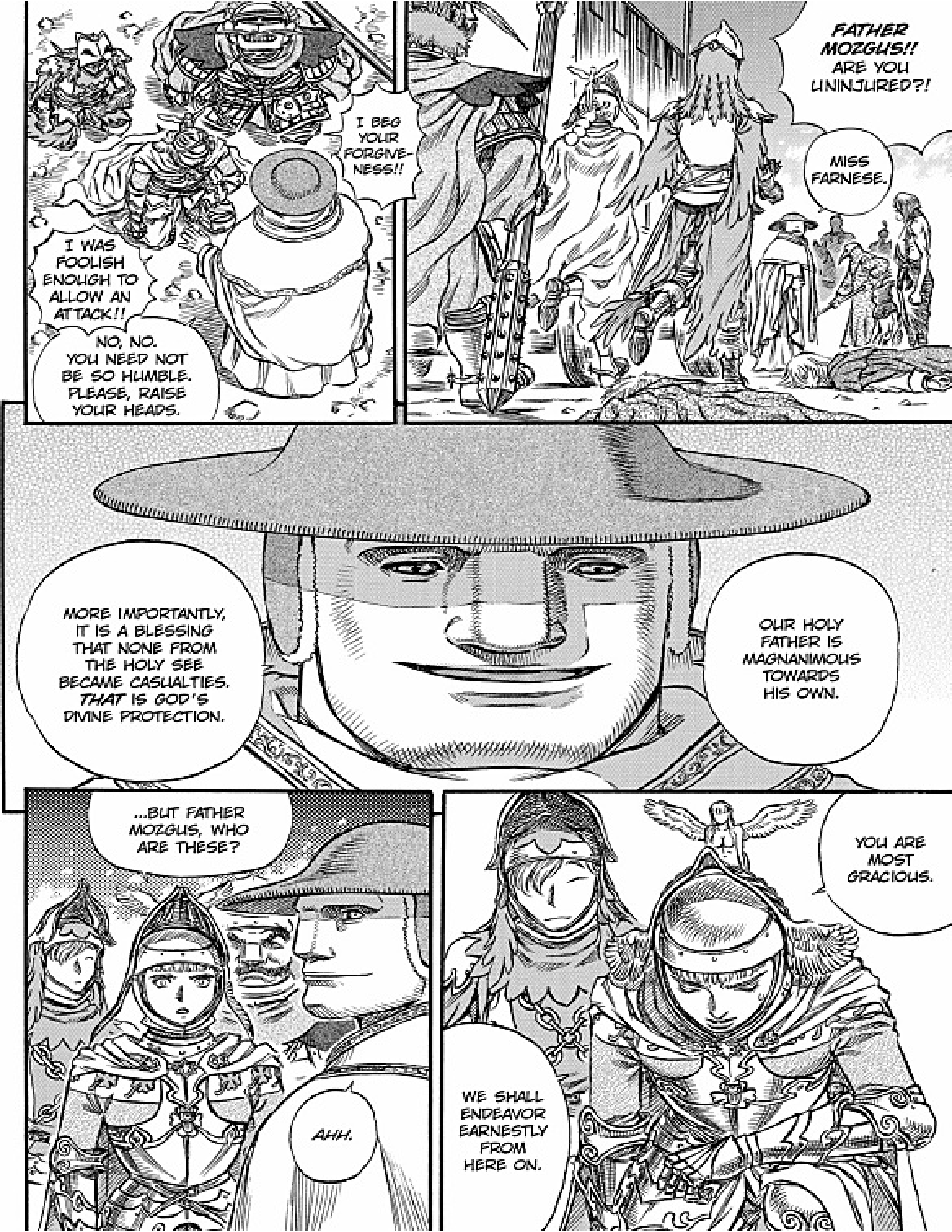

HAGYAHHH!
*SHHHNK
*SHHHNK
*SHHHNK
BNGHHH
*FX: SHHHNK
*FX: SHHHNK
*FX: KCHK
WH...WHAT'S *THAT?!*
*FX: HYNN
*FX: VULCH!
GYAH!
UGAHHH

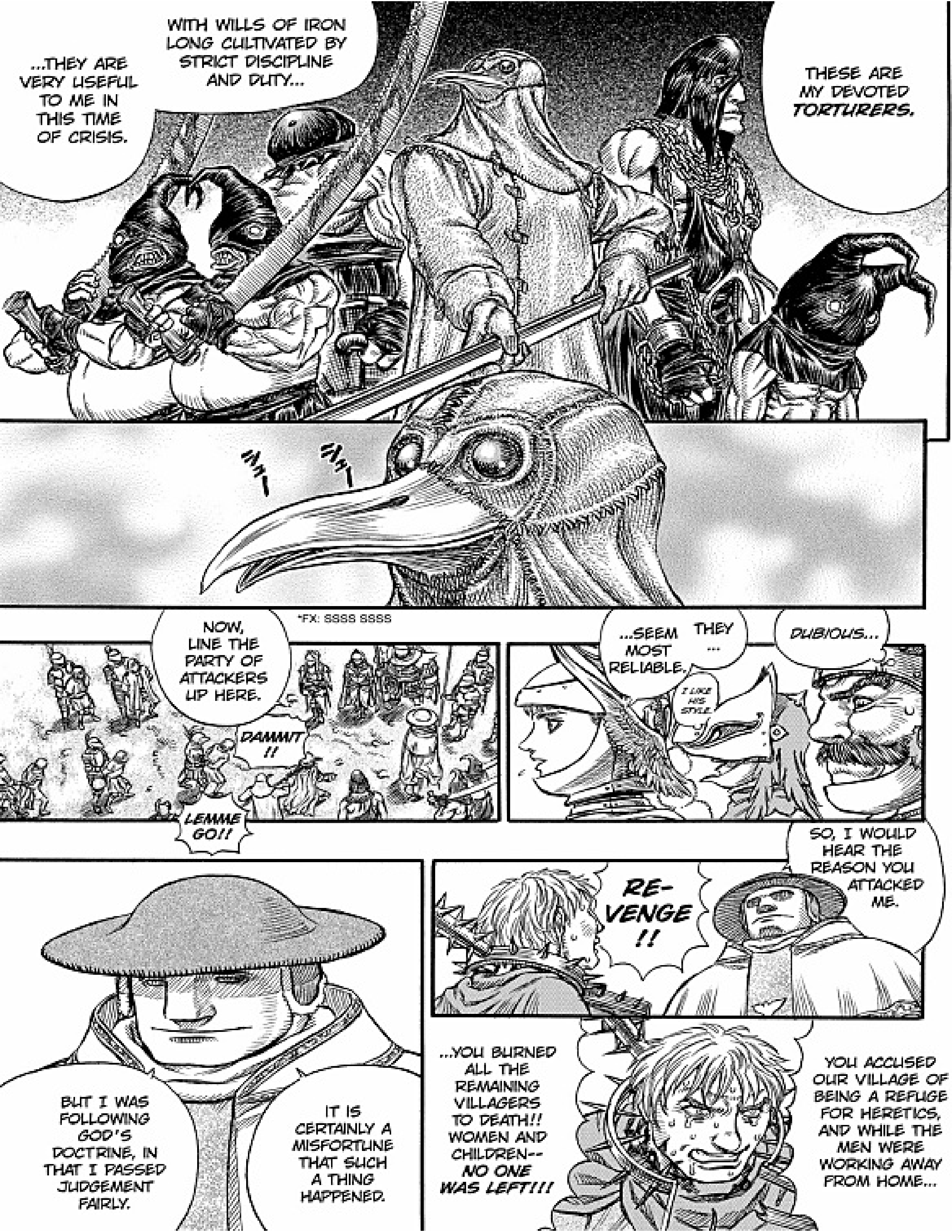

...!!
*FX: LOOM
*FX: WHOMP


WH- WHAT'RE THESE GUYS?!
*BACHINNG
*FX: SHNK
HAO...!
*FX: BLCH BLCH
WHO...?!
*FX: GREE
GRACIOUS.
WHAT A NOISY AFFAIR.



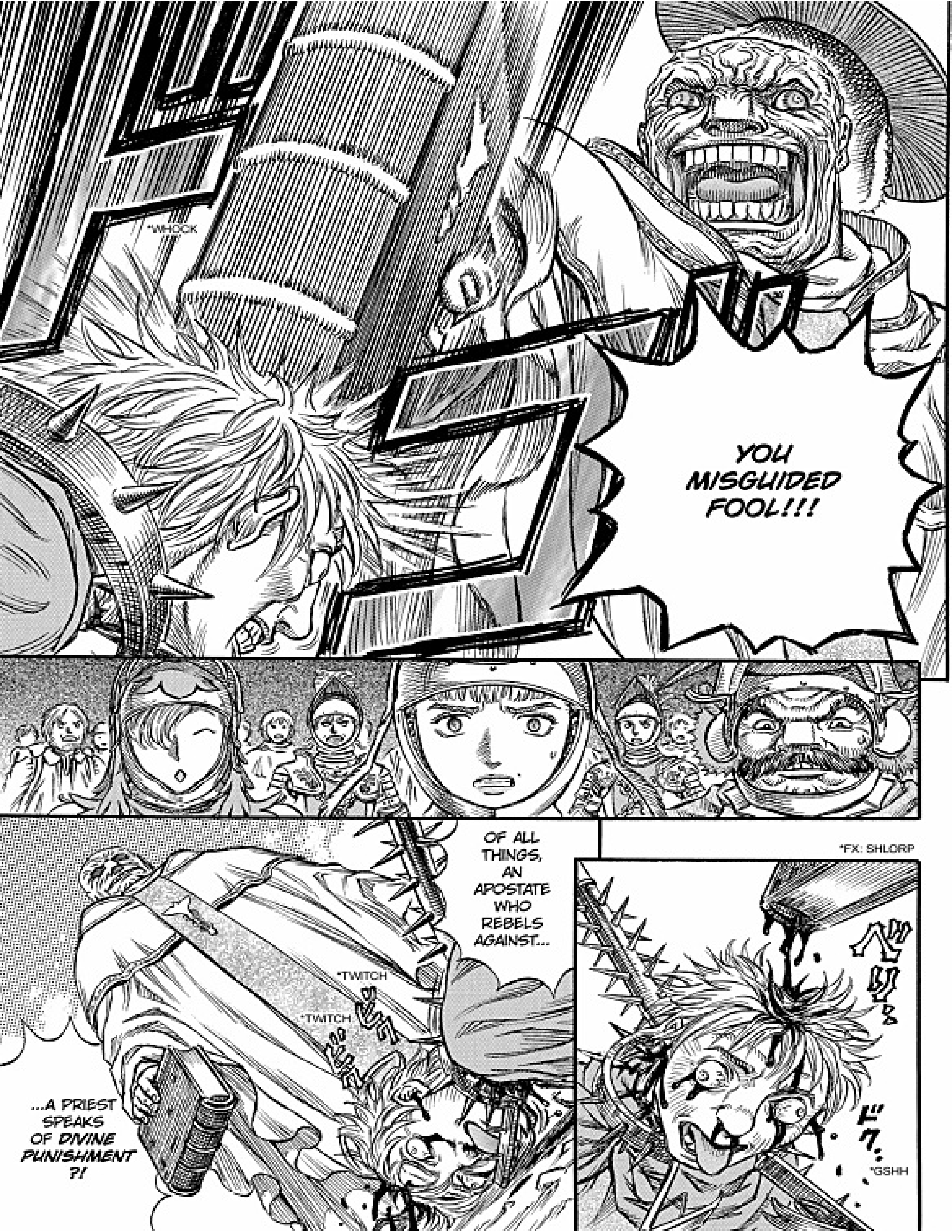

THE LORD DOTH REVERE SILENCE.


FATHER MOZGUS!! ARE YOU UNINJURED?!
MISS FARNESE.
I BEG YOUR FORGIVE-NESS!!
I WAS FOOLISH ENOUGH TO ALLOW AN ATTACK!!
NO, NO. YOU NEED NOT BE SO HUMBLE. PLEASE, RAISE YOUR HEADS.
OUR HOLY FATHER IS MAGNANIMOUS TOWARDS HIS OWN.
MORE IMPORTANTLY, IT IS A BLESSING THAT NONE FROM THE HOLY SEE BECAME CASUALTIES. THAT IS GOD'S DIVINE PROTECTION.
YOU ARE MOST GRACIOUS.
WE SHALL ENDEAVOR EARNESTLY FROM HERE ON.
...BUT FATHER MOZGUS, WHO ARE THESE?
AHH.



WITH WILLS OF IRON LONG CULTIVATED BY STRICT DISCIPLINE AND DUTY...
...THEY ARE VERY USEFUL TO ME IN THIS TIME OF CRISIS.
THESE ARE MY DEVOTED TORTURERS.
*FX: SSSS SSSS
NOW, LINE THE PARTY OF ATTACKERS UP HERE.
DAMMIT!!
LEMME GO!!
THEY...
...SEEM MOST RELIABLE.
DUBIOUS...
I LIKE HIS STYLE.
SO, I WOULD HEAR THE REASON YOU ATTACKED ME.
RE-VENGE!!
YOU ACCUSED OUR VILLAGE OF BEING A REFUGE FOR HERETICS, AND WHILE THE MEN WERE WORKING AWAY FROM HOME...
...YOU BURNED ALL THE REMAINING VILLAGERS TO DEATH!! WOMEN AND CHILDREN-- NO ONE WAS LEFT!!!
IT IS CERTAINLY A MISFORTUNE THAT SUCH A THING HAPPENED.
BUT I WAS FOLLOWING GOD'S DOCTRINE, IN THAT I PASSED JUDGEMENT FAIRLY.


WHAT WAS *FAIR* ABOUT IT?! ALL WE DID WAS SUGGEST THAT WE TEMPORARILY SUSPEND OUR OFFERINGS TO THE CHURCH SINCE OUR FOOD STORES HAD HIT ROCK BOTTOM FROM THE FAMINE!!
AND YOU ARBITRARILY-- IT'S DIVINE PUNISHMENT!! GOD'S WRATH... IS UPON *YOU!!*
PUNISH-MENT...
PUNISH-MENT...
*FX: STRAIN
*STRAAAAIN
ビキ. ビキ.
YOU DARE SPEAK OF PUNISHMENT?!



*WHOCK
YOU MISGUIDED FOOL!!!
*FX: SHLORP
*GSHH
OF ALL THINGS, AN APOSTATE WHO REBELS AGAINST...
*TWITCH
*TWITCH
...A PRIEST SPEAKS OF *DIVINE PUNISHMENT* ?!


PEOPLE SUCH AS YOU ALL...
NO!!
NO ONE ON EARTH BESIDES WE OF THE HOLY SEE!!
NONE OF YOU HAVE ANY PLACE PRESUMING TO BE GOD'S MOUTHPIECE!!
......
*SILENCE
MISS FAR-NESE.
A...
AYE!
*KLAK
WHAT MANNER OF ACTION...
...DOST THOU FEEL IS APPROPRIATE FOR THESE?
...
THOSE WHO WOULD PLOT TO MURDER A PRIEST...
...USUALLY WARRANT BURNING, OR BREAKING ON THE WHEEL.


AND WE ARE PRESSED FOR TIME AND CANNOT WASTE IT ON INVOLVEMENT WITH THEM...
MOREOVER, THEY ARE FLAGRANT DELICTORS. THEY HAVE NO DEFENSE.
CATEGORICALLY ANSWERED! JUST WHAT I WOULD EXPECT FROM THE GLORIOUS LEADER OF THE HOLY IRON CHAIN KNIGHTS. SPLENDID INSIGHT.
I AM GRATE-FUL...
*CLAP CLAP
*FX: SNAP
BY MY AUTHORITY I PASS SUMMARY JUDGEMENT UPON THEM HERE.
THE SENTENCE.
ALL OF THE ACCUSED ARE CONDEMNED TO DEATH BY THE WHEEL.
FORGIVE MEEE!!
GO TO HELL!!
I'M GONNA KILL YOU!!
L-LOAD OF CRAP!!
N-NO! H-HAVE MERCY...!!


STOP IIIIT!
F-FORGIVE ME-- STOP!!
...!!!


GUGAH!....
*BOK
*FX: GSSH
HGYAH!!....


*TWITCH TWITCH
ATRO-
CIOUS
...
N-
NEXT.
...!!
*TUG
!
UWAHH!
*FX: THUD
H-HELP
ME...!!
*FX: WHUMP


*FX: PAT PAT
......
*FX: RUB RUB
HEY!
IF YOU DO THAT, YOU'LL GET INVOLVED TOO!
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!
*FX: GCHAK
EH... AIEE!!
GIRL!!
ARE YOU IN LEAGUE WITH HIM TOO?! COME HERE!!
HELP...
W-WAIT! SHE'S GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH THIS, HE JUST...
SHUT UP!!
!


AHHH
MY NAME'S LUCA. ARE YOU OKAY?
AHHH...
WHAT'S SHE, CRAZY?
C'MON!
H-HAVE MERCY...!!
*WHMP
YOU DON'T GO FOR REVENGE IF YOU'RE NOT READY TO DIE! WIMP!
*FX: GYAHHH
*FX: AIIEEE
STILL, THIS IS SO GRUESOME IT'S MAKING ME SICK!
WHEN I THINK I'M GOING TO THE SAME PLACE THEY ARE, IT MAKES ME WANT TO HEAD BACK TO MY OWN PLAGUE-RIDDEN VILLAGE.



*FX: GOHHH OHH OHH]
ゴオオオオオ・・オ・・オ。
COME ON!
HOW LONG'RE YOU GONNA STAND THERE?
*CAWW
AHH
STARING AT IT WILL JUST MAKE YOU ILL.
COME ON! THIS WAY.


AHHHH...
*GAWW
*GAWW
*GAWW

STOP

This is the back of the book!

This manga collection is translated into English but oriented in right-to-left reading format at the creator's request, maintaining the artwork's visual orientation as originally published in Japan. If you've never read manga in this way before, take a look at the diagram below to give yourself an idea of how to go about it. Basically, you'll be starting in the upper right corner and will read each balloon and panel moving right to left. It may take some getting used to, but you should get the hang of it very quickly. Have fun!



COMICS & GRAPHIC NOVELS / MANGA / HORROR

BERSERK

KENTARO MIURA

17

ベルセルク

三浦建太郎

Renegade devil-slayer Guts, the Black Swordsman, may be the bane of the demonic realm, but the citizenry of Midland, the kingdom he formerly served, aren't exactly members of his fan club, either. When the holier-than-thou Knights of the Holy Iron Chain capture Guts and decide to whip (literally) some repentance into him, Guts develops a few ideas of his own . . . like taking the Iron Chain's leader hostage and showing her that when Hell comes calling, the only thing worth praying for is a sword!

Created by Kentaro Miura, *Berserk* is an out-of-control manga flashfire, a searing epic of blazing action, blasphemous horror, and black humor that has left scorched earth and toasted readers in its fiery wake. Burn, baby, burn!

This collection is translated into English but oriented in right-to-left reading format, as originally published.

DARK HORSE MANGA

FOR READERS 18+
FOR MATURE READERS